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THE Rev. WALTER HILL, M.A. Oxon, Vicar of Medmenham, Bucks, receives PUPILS for the Universities, Woolwich, &c., and is assisted by H. H. ROSE, M.A., Esq., Fourteenth Wrangler and late Head Math. Master of Wimbledon School, who resides, and gives all his attention to the work of tuition.

BIRTHS. May 19, at Garian, Ventimiglia, is Contessa AGNES DE GALLIANI, of a son. May 19, at Bredwardine Vicarage, Hereford, the wife of the Rev. HENRY TAYLOR WILLIAMSON, of a daughter. May 21, at 14, Upper Grosvenor-street, the Baroness C. de TULLY, of a son. May 21, the wife of the Rev. F. W. CRICK, M.A., School House, Kilworth Beauchamp, of a daughter. May 25, the wife of the Rev. JOHN CYPRIAN RUST, Vicar of Soham, of a son. May 25, at Walton Rectory, Warwickshire, the wife of the Rev. J. A. O'BRYEN, of a daughter. May 25, at All Saints' Lodge, Whetstone, N., the wife of the Rev. ERNEST HILLIARD, Met. Dist. Sec. Home Missions (A.C.S.), of a son. May 26, at Hutton Vicarage, the wife of the Rev. W. S. BEEVER, M.A., of a son.

MARRIAGES. May 21, at the parish church, West Derby, Liverpool, JAMES HENRY DAVIS, British Consular Chaplain at Monte Video, second son of N. J. Davis, Esq., of Painwick, Gloucestershire, to ROSA, third daughter of the late PETER GEORGE HATWORTH, Esq., J.P., of Yewtree, near Liverpool. May 23, at St. Matthew's, Bayswater, FREDERICK GEORGE, eldest son of G. F. HUSBRIDGE, Esq., The Lodge, West Malling, to ELLA, youngest daughter of the Rev. C. F. WIDEMANN, M.A., British Chaplain at Hamburg. May 25, at the Church of St. Nicholas, Brighton, CHARLES EDMUND, second son of ROBERT GRAMSHAW, Esq., of Powis-square, Brighton, to BERTA, only daughter of the late Rev. ARTHUR STARKY, Rector of Bygrave, Herts. May 26, by special licence, at Holy Trinity Church, Upper Chelsea, the Rev. REGINALD KNATCHBULL HUSSEIN, son of the late Right Hon. Sir EDWARD KNATCHBULL, Bart., of Merham-Hatch, Kent, to Miss RACHEL MARY MONTGOMERY, daughter of Admiral Sir Alexander Montgomery, Bart.

DEATHS. May 7, after a long illness, ELLEN, Viscountess BOLINGBROKE, aged 45. May 9, at Bournemouth, CATHERINE WATKINSON, of Colne Place, Earl's Colne, widow of the Rev. Robert Watkinson, formerly Vicar of Earl's Colne, aged 92 years. May 17, at Church House, Witney, KATE, relict of the late Rev. ROBERT MASSIE, aged 80. May 21, at the Vicarage, Orpington, Kent, THEOPHILUS HEALE, Esq., late of Auckland, New Zealand, aged 68. May 22, at the Vicarage, Bodmin, PATRICK MAXWELL, only child of the R.V. ARTHUR L. PALMES, and Alice, his wife, aged ten months. May 26, CHARLES SYDNEY, infant son of the Rev. SYDNEY BOTT, Vicar of St. Jude's, Kensal-green, aged 16 months. May 26, at Charlton, Blandford, Dorset, MARY, WIDOW D'OTLY, widow of Sir John Hadley D'Oyly, Bart., in the 92nd year of her age.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—In the Chamber on Saturday, the President, M. Floquet, passed an eloquent eulogy on the late Victor Hugo. M. Brisson then proposed a grant of 20,000*fr.* to defray the expenses of the funeral. The motion was adopted by 415 to 3 votes. M. de la Forge afterwards moved that the Pantheon, now the Church of St. Genevieve, should be secularized in order that the remains might be buried there. Ultimately the motion was referred to the Bureau instead of being taken into consideration at once as proposed. The House then adjourned in token of respect for the deceased poet.

Sunday being the anniversary of the fall of the Paris Commune, a demonstration organised by various revolutionary societies took place in the Cemetery of Pere Lachaise. On a red flag being produced, the constables on duty ordered it to be given up. This was refused, and a tussle ensued. The Anarchists standing near struck the police, who thereupon drew their swords and drove back the crowd upon a heap of stones, which were used as missiles. The Republican Guards then fired bayonets and charged the Anarchists. The rioting was the most serious that has taken place since the downfall of the Commune. Nearly a hundred persons were wounded, the crowd hurling bricks and stones at the police, one of whom had his jaw broken by a large stone being thrown at him, and another was felled to the ground in a similar way. In the attempt by the troops to rescue the latter several people received bayonet wounds. The rioting was resumed on Monday on the occasion of the funeral of a former member of the Commune. An immense crowd assembled, and the police in a conciliatory spirit warned the leaders not to unfurl the red flag. This, however, was done. Revolutionary harangues were delivered at the cemetery, and on emerging from it the crowd so irritated the police that they charged on them; seditious flags were seized, and several arrests were made. One constable was stabbed in the chest.

The funeral of another Communist, M. Amoureux, took place in Paris on Tuesday. The procession to the cemetery comprised about 4,000 persons, including most of the members of the Municipal Council. Twelve speeches were delivered over the grave. Inside the cemetery cries were raised of "Long live the Commune."

In the Chamber on Tuesday M. Lacroix questioned the Government on the subject of the disturbances, and accused it of having provoked them. He denied that it had any right to interfere with the display of red flags, as the law relating to seditious emblems had not been passed. The Minister of the Interior, M. Allain Targé, said he accepted all the responsibility for what had occurred. It was the duty of the Government to preserve order and prevent the display of emblems of civil war. M. Lacroix's motion condemning the conduct of the police was afterwards put and rejected by a large majority. A resolution expressing confidence in the Government was then carried by 388 to 10 votes.

President Grévy on Wednesday issued two decrees, one restoring the Pantheon to be a burial place for illustrious Frenchmen, the other directing that the body of Victor Hugo shall be laid there. The body was to be stripped of its ecclesiastical fittings within two days.

Complying with a desire expressed by the family, Victor Hugo's funeral will not take place before Monday. Preparations on a vast scale are being pushed on with great activity.

A hundred years ago a Frenchman named Blanchard and an American-born Englishman named Jeffries started from Dover in a balloon, and descended at Guines, near Calais. The centenary was celebrated on Sunday at Guines, and was attended by two grandsons of Dr. Jeffries. The chief incident was a balloon ascent; but within a quarter of an hour the balloon was hidden by clouds. It was then proceeding in a north-north-easterly direction. It descended during the evening at a seaside village near Gravesend.

The Prefect of the Seine, in asking for a further grant in favour of the municipal libraries which have of late been opened in Paris, states that a considerable addition has been made to them since his last report; whereas there were only 24 of them at the close of 1883, there are now 42, and this total will be raised to 40 by the end of the year. His object is to have a library in each of the 80 "quarters" into which Paris is for municipal purposes divided; but this will not be effected for three or four years at the least. The number of volumes read between the 1st of October, 1883, and the 30th of September, 1884, was 696,762, showing an increase of 183,475 over the total for the previous twelvemonth, which itself exhibited an increase of 151,000 over that for the previous year. The great majority of the books are taken out to be read at home, and there is a great falling-off in the demand during the summer months. Out of the 699,762 books read last year 400,631 were novels, the 299,131 other works being upon science, history, geography, and travels. Thus it will be seen that the proportion between novels and works capable of conveying instruction is as four to three, while among other works lent were 22,974 scores of music. Most of these municipal libraries have been placed in the communal school for boys, and the masters have been appointed librarians, receiving a welcome addition of £15 or £20 to their salary. This plan has been found to work very well, the schoolmasters taking a great interest in the libraries intrusted to their care. The total expenditure per annum is not more than £2,600, and the money is well laid out.

ITALY.—In Rome there is much building going forward in all directions, but principally in the district between the churches of Santa Maria Maggiore and San Giovanni in Laterno. There is a large square which promises well—the Piazza Vittorio Emanuele—and the new streets are being made much wider than was the custom in past times. One will be enabled to walk on the pavement without fear of being jammed by a passing carriage. If these streets turn out like the Via Nazionale, the Romans ought to be congratulated, for this is the handsomest street in Rome—although much good work was destroyed to make it. It contains two recently finished buildings worthy of note, although of widely

different character; the American Church, the tower of which is a fine design, and the new Museo di Belle Arti, a handsome classical elevation. Mr. Street's English Church, in the Via del Babuino, is progressing, but apparently rather slowly; the walls are nearly completed throughout, but the roof is not commenced. It is curious to see windows and arched of English character side by side with the nave piers, which are square in alternate layers of yellow Siena and red Perugia marbles; and between the larger piers a single column of green marble. The effect will be very rich when finished.

RUSSIA.—According to a telegram from Russia, in addition to the sword of honour presented by the Czar to General Komaroff, a national recompense of 5,000 roubles annually for ten years was granted to him. He asked that a lump sum of 50,000 roubles should be given to him instead, whereupon the Minister of War solicited and obtained for him an increase of the grant itself, which was raised to 100,000 roubles.

The maritime canal from St. Petersburg to Cronstadt was opened on Wednesday, this being the second anniversary of the coronation of the present Czar. A few minutes before eleven o'clock the Imperial family arrived by special train at the port of St. Petersburg. A large and beautiful pavilion had been erected for the Emperor, the Empress, and their suite. On the summit was the Imperial eagle. Over the entrance there was a splendid golden crown. Round the pavilion there were graceful groups of palms and bay trees. In the port there was a large number of steamers with flags flying and bands of music playing. After a religious service the Emperor and Empress went on board the magnificent yacht *Dersava*, which was anchored at the spot where the canal commences. Unfortunately heavy rain began to fall, and somewhat interfered with the effect of the ceremony. At a quarter past twelve o'clock the *Dersava* proceeded to Cronstadt, followed by the smaller Imperial yachts, with the members of the Imperial family on board, as well as the Diplomatic Corps, &c. Near Cronstadt the entire Baltic fleet was assembled, numbering one hundred and eleven vessels and torpedo boats. As the Imperial party approached, the forts of Cronstadt thundered forth a salute, and announced thus that the ceremony of opening the canal had been performed.

The *Kavkas* gives the following account of a colony of Jews called Daght Tchoufont, who live in the mountains of the Northern Caucasus:—"The Daght Tchoufont live in several small but distinct communities in the provinces of Daghestan, Terek, and Kouban. They say that they are the descendants of Persian Jews who arrived in Daghestan in the fifteenth century, and who established themselves some time later among the Koumyks, whose Princes greatly valued their commercial aptitude and their skill in the cultivation of madder, rice, and the vine. Considerably before the Russian conquest of the Caucasus these Jews were established at the aoul of Andreievsky, on the plateau of Koumyk, and it was after this that they came into the Terek, where they settled in a place named Portytch, between the present stanitzas of Schelkazavodskaya and Stchedrin-kaia. With the view of more successfully resisting the mountaineers they were then installed in the aouls Andreievsky, Taschketchi, Kizil-Yurt, and others, which they occupy at the present day. They number about 500 families. They speak different dialects of the Circassian mountaineers, but they prefer writing and talking the language of Farsistan, which they brought with them from Persia. Their Talnud is translated into that language. They have nothing in common with Russian Jews except their religion, which, however, possesses some distinctive features. Their rabbis are subordinate to the Chief Rabbi of Derband. The Daght Tchoufont are engaged in both commerce and agriculture. They were the first mountaineers of the Terek to visit the towns and distant fairs of Russia, and their example has much contributed to the industrial development of the mountaineers. At the present time they enjoy the same rights as the other Circassians: they can possess lands, and pay equal taxes with the rest."

MADAGASCAR.—Although a state of war still exists between France and Madagascar, it is interesting to note that the Malagasy Government have in no respect relaxed their efforts in the cause of education. Two Malagasy youths of considerable promise, who have been educated in London during the last four years, will return to their own country in a few days in order to occupy a position as teachers in the public schools. Since the war there has been no interruption of educational work in Madagascar.

SPAIN.—The Spanish Government have telegraphed to the authorities of the province of Valencia to stop all the inoculation experiments of Dr. Ferran, on account of reports that several persons thus inoculated have been attacked with cholera. Dr. Ferran arrived at Madrid on Wednesday morning to see the Home Secretary, and he states that his latest experiments at Alcala, a town of 16,000 inhabitants, gave the following results:—From May 1 to May 18, persons inoculated a first time, 7,128; persons inoculated twice, 3,011; persons inoculated once, and subsequently attacked with cholera, seven; and only two died, whilst no one of the persons twice inoculated died. But in the same period, May 1 to May 18, seventy-three cases of cholera occurred in Alcala among persons not inoculated, and thirty-nine of these cases ended fatally. The decision of the Government (the *Standard's* correspondent says) has really been caused by the conflicting opinion of physicians and the authorities on the efficacy of inoculation. The epidemic continues in the province of Valencia, despite strict sanitary precautions.

The Madrid correspondent of the *Petit Parisien* relates a striking instance of the intensity of family quarrels in Spain. About a year ago a gipsy named Moralis was assassinated at Zorza, in the province of Cacérés, by one of his comrades named Silra. The latter was in due course tried and condemned to death, but his execution did not satisfy the vengeance of the victim's family. There had been ill-feeling between the two families for three years, but there had been no open quarrel until the murder of Moralis. Soon after the execution of the murderer, which took place last month, the two families met on their return from a fair near the town of Cacérés.

They had their mules and cattle with them. There were about fifty on each side, including women and children. A regular pitched battle ensued, revolvers, knives, and sticks being freely used by the men, while the women employed their nails with considerable effect, and the children threw stones indiscriminately. The result of the struggle was that the heads of the two families were both killed, two of the women, and several of the children. There were ten or twelve wounded, and the bodies of the dead were horribly mutilated. If the mounted police had not interrupted the fight there would have been many more lives lost. Several of the mules were killed, and the baggage of the two families was strewn about in such disorder that the road for nearly half a mile looked as if a large army had beaten a retreat along it.

EGYPT.—It is reported that the Mahdi has ordered the withdrawal of his forces from Berber, Khartoum, Sennaar, and Kordofan; that he will retire with his followers to Jebel Eliri, three days' journey to the west of Sobat on the White Nile, leaving the steamers there. The causes of this movement are said to be scarcity of supplies and dread of the British. It is reported that he has proclaimed his intention of not advancing on Dongola till after Ramadan next year. This year's Ramadan is from June 14 to July 13. It will be remembered that last year the Mahdi put off the attack on Khartoum in the same way, and probably for the same reason: to allow his followers to go home and gather in their harvests.

The evacuation of Dongola is proceeding rapidly. The poor natives are provided with transport and food. Nearly all are leaving, and 1,135 have already left. On Monday the Mudir's troops start north from Merawi, which appears to be one of the healthiest stations on the river, although the temperature is 116deg. in the shade. The Nile is sufficiently high for the whalers to work, and it is even reported that it has begun to rise at Dongola and Korosko. Colonel Butler left Merawi on Tuesday with all the English troops. As he passes down the river he will pick up the troops at each port on the way. The stores have been already sent down in boats, with the exception of some useful articles which have been presented to the friendly natives. The latter now express alarm, anticipating that they will be attacked by the Mahdi's partisans.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says:—

"A somewhat fuller narrative than that telegraphed to you a few days ago of the events of which Khartoum has been the blood-stained theatre since its fall, has now been given by Pere Hanriot, the French missionary, who spent seven years in the Soudan. Pere Hanriot and one of his companions left Khartoum shortly after the arrival of General Gordon. They succeeded in descending the Nile, and reached Cairo in safety by Berber and Dongola. Here they were able to correspond from time to time, but at great cost, with the nuns and missionaries who remained imprisoned in the Soudan until they fell into the hands of the Mahdi and his followers. Pere Hanriot's reminiscences may serve to throw some further light on the dark history of a place which has a dramatic interest for Englishmen, and it is to be hoped that his present endeavours to liberate his captive companions will be crowned with success. This is a consummation devoutly to be wished, not only on humanitarian grounds, but also because we might then be able to learn more of the events which took place after the death of the gallant Gordon. According to the missionary, the dervish Mohamed Achmet (the Mahdi) obtained the title of Prophet by his fanaticism rather than by his brains. Pere Hanriot heard him haranguing crowds in the streets of Khartoum long before any one, except the rabble, took any notice of him. On one occasion the future Mahdi stood up on a hillock, and in vulgar but energetic language cried out:—'Will you not drive away those miserable English, who bow before a different god to yours, who steal your poultry, who lord it over you by their wealth, and who tear away from you your wives? Awake! Arise! Follow me! Let us free our land!' By inflammatory discourses such as these Mohamed succeeded in imposing himself upon the people, who have now ended by making him do more than he originally intended. Such at least seems to be the impression made by the Mahdi upon the mind of the missionary, who is rather inclined to whitewash the Prophet on the ground that he is egged on by blackguards stronger and more daring than himself, but without his hold on the popular feelings. His principal lieutenant is an Egyptian who was orderly officer to Arabi Pasha. Mohamed Achmet was born forty-three years ago on the island of Aba, where his father built and repaired boats. Being piously disposed, the future Prophet became a fakier and then a dervish, crying out verses of the Koran to the night winds. He lived in a hole for seven years, people flocking to him for lines from the Koran written by his hand. One day some of his worshippers called out that he was the Saviour, and he awoke next day to find himself famous all over the country.

"Pere Hanriot is positive that the French renegade Olivier Pain, the ex-Communist, and some time correspondent of a Paris paper in the Soudan, is, or has been, with the Mahdi. He met Pain twice—once on the banks of the Nile, and once at Edfu, when he was en route for the Prophet's camp. M. Henri Rochefort's friend was deeply bronzed by the sun and dressed as a Mussulman, being accompanied by a young European whose name is unknown. When Gordon entered Khartoum the town was of course given over to his troops, who made preparations for the siege. The churches were closed, and everybody who could escaped. Pere Hanriot was entreated by the priests and nuns who were with him to try to reach Cairo, in order to effect their deliverance. He did so, and arrived in Cairo at the end of last June, after a journey of two months across the Desert. What passed afterwards at Khartoum he learned by letter from Pere Bonomi. The Mahdi, personally, was well disposed towards the Christians, but his officers and men were intent only on murder and pillage. The missionaries quietly surrendered, but the churches were desecrated, plundered, and destroyed. Men, and especially women, who had become converts, were torn away from their homes, and all were called upon to apostatise in the midst of nameless sufferings. At

one time the Mahdi ordered the execution of the missionaries, but just as they were going valiantly to martyrdom he countermanded his order. The nuns were compelled to marry, as the Koran prohibits women from remaining single. They were on the point of being handed over to savages, who had already subjected them to horrible maltreatment, when some Greek merchants who had apostatised, and were therefore held in estimation by the Soudanese, saved them by saying that they were their wives. The nuns are now in the island of Aba, which is in the White Nile to the south of Khartoum. The priests and lay brothers are at Kordofan. Pere Hanriot, who is at present living in Paris with the brothers of the Christian Doctrine, in the Rue Oudinot, expects to enter into negotiations with the chief of the Kabbabish tribe, to whom he has sent a messenger with a view to the liberation of the captives. He is strongly of opinion that the Mahdi will soon be delivered up to England by some of the tribal chiefs, who are all jealous of him. The Prophet is evidently 'played out,' and, according to the missionary, is losing influence every day.

CYPRUS.—A *Times* correspondent writes:—"An event of great importance to the members of the English Established Church resident in what has been termed 'the gem of the Mediterranean' took place at Nicosia, on May 6, when the High Commissioner of the island, Major-General Sir Robert Biddulph, C.B., K.C.M.G., laid the foundation-stone of the first building for Protestant worship erected since the 'occupation,' as the transference in 1878 of the governing power from Turkey to Great Britain is called. Though services have been held (as well at other towns as at the capital, where the chief officials reside) in rooms affording sufficient accommodation, the want of a proper place for Divine worship had long been felt, and many had set their hearts on building a temple 'made with hands.' There was a healthy diversity of opinion as to the best manner of achieving the object in view. In some quarters a strong feeling prevailed that the Church of St. Nicholas—a monument testifying to the piety and munificence of the Crusaders—now desecrated and used as a store, should be restored and arranged 'decently and in order,' that English voices might again, after a lapse of centuries, resound through its vaults in praise of the Creator. As its handsome triad of doorways, still manifesting the skill of the carvers, is within a few yards of the stately but defaced portals of the spacious Gothic Cathedral raised by the Venetians, now used as the chief mosque of the Mohammedans and known as St. Sophia, as the feelings of Orientals in religious matters are sometimes fervid, even if unaggressive, and as there might have been some difficulty in acquiring the building, this scheme was gradually relinquished. A small majority of the residents supported another proposal—that the new church should be without, and not within, the ramparts. A piece of land nearly half a mile west of the city, and close to the Government offices, was accordingly selected, and was given by the authorities in England for the purpose required. The design selected was that of Mr. W. Williams, of the Government Engineer's Department, one of the many alumni of Cranleigh College who have carried their recollections of the Surrey school into various parts of the globe. The production of his facile pencil is one of elegant simplicity, with chaste ornamentation and detail, showing that the rare architectural treasures of his native city (Winchester) have not been lost upon him. The style chosen is early English, with a touch of French characteristics introduced in the bell-tower, the interior length being 52ft., and the width 22ft., affording accommodation for 100 persons—about one-third more than the present congregation. On the north side stands the tower, with recess for organ below; on the south there is a vestry; and on the west a porch. The main portion of the building will be constructed of the local buff-coloured freestone, with dressings of a harder white stone (resembling that of Portland), quarried a few miles from Nicosia. The church will be known as St. Paul's, being named after the great Apostle, who visited the island in A.D. 45, and converted the Roman Pro-Consul, Sergius Paulus. Indeed, so abiding was the success of the mission that before the time of Constantine the Great, a little more than two and a-half centuries later, there were thirteen Bishops in the island. The erection of the church, exclusive of seating, lead lights, &c., has been undertaken by Mr. J. H. Hutchinson, a well-known local contractor, for £924, which sum, thanks to acceptable donations from the mother country, may be said to be in hand. Before the great Christian festival the building will be completed, and, from its elevated position, it will form a prominent object for many miles. It is hoped that at some not far distant day a residence for the officiating clergyman may be raised near the fabric. His Excellency, attended by his aide-de-camp, Captain Sapte, arrived at 5.30 p.m. at the enclosure, which had been gaily decorated with English flags, and was presented by the contractor with a silver trowel of native workmanship. Colonel F. Warren (the Chief Secretary, whose keen interest in the progress of the island is well known, and was manifested last summer by an exhibition of Cypriot antiquities, &c., in London), the head officials, many ladies, the Greek Archbishop of Cyprus, the Bishop of Kitium, the Abbot of Kikko Monastery, several Greek priests, and some of the most influential residents of the city. The Rev. J. Spencer, the resident minister, conducted the service. Dr. Dobbs, the chairman of the building committee, having thanked Sir Robert for obtaining the site, desired him to lay the stone, which his Excellency did with the usual formula, and the proceedings terminated."

CANADA.—General Middleton, who has reached Prince Albert, has been ordered by the Government to conduct a campaign against the hostile Indians and to crush them. He has been serving food rations to the people of Batoche to prevent famine, and has asked instruction from the Government as to the disposal of prisoners. Riel has been sent to Regina, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, the capital of Assiniboine, delivered to the police, and confined in the barracks. The departure of troops for the North-West has been stopped.

General satisfaction is expressed throughout the Dominion at the energy and ability displayed by the Hon. A.P. Caron, Minister of Militia, during the recent rebellion. The facts of the case have also

made a deep impression on the public mind in the United States.

The *St. Louis Republican*, a leading Democratic organ, says:—"Viewed in a military light, Riel's rebellion discloses the fact that in fifteen days the Canadian Minister of Militia called into the field 1,000 organised volunteer troops with 400 horses, furnished them with transport to the seat of war, 2,000 miles distant, and pushed forward three columns, widely separated, to points hundreds of miles from the railway. The Minister, moreover, kept the troops supplied, and covered an immense frontier, so that from the time they began to arrive the rebels were able to strike scattered families only. The most important thing connected with the whole affair is that the campaign has been made under the direction of the Minister of Militia, and practically without the aid of any regular army organisation." The journal concludes its article on the subject as follows:—"When it is remembered that the movement was begun promptly in the inclement season, and when the great distances traversed and the short time wasted in equipment and marching are considered, and when due weight is given to the fact that since 1870 there has not been a call to arms in Canada or any border trouble that could overshadow the necessity for keeping troops in readiness—bearing all these things in mind, we think that great credit is due to the Canadian Minister."

The *Detroit News* remarks that the result of the rebellion will not only attract settlers to the fertile region where the Dominion has thus manifested its power, but will enormously enhance the credit and prestige of Canada in the eyes of the world. It adds: "The feat performed by the Canadian troops is one of which the army of any Power on earth might well be proud. These few boys, gathered from the shops, offices, and farms of Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, and Manitoba, traversed a country much more difficult than the British would have been compelled to cover between Pishin and Herat. They met and conquered an enemy not so numerous, but braver and better armed than the Afghans and Turcomans. It is a great feather in the cap of our neighbour, and may indeed be called the baptism of blood of a young nation growing up on our border."

At the afternoon's sitting of the Dominion House of Commons on Wednesday, the Hon. A. P. Caron, Minister of Militia, read a despatch from General Middleton stating that Poundmaker, Yellow Mud, Can Man, Breaking-through-Ice, and White Bear, all of whom are influential Indian chiefs, were now prisoners in his camp, and that their arms, consisting of 210 rifles, and all their supplies had been secured.

Gabriel Dumont, Riel's lieutenant, has been captured near the American frontier.

INDIA.—The correspondents of the Indian press with the Boundary Commission continue to furnish additional details on the subject of the "Penjdeh incident," which appears to have been a regular massacre, as well as on the miserable sufferings of the British Commission in its flight before the Russo-Turcoman advance.

The following extracts will be of interest to our readers:—

"Later reports which reach us show that the slaughter of Afghans at Ak Tapa was greater than at first reported. Out of 1,600 regulars 900 are said to have been killed and 300 wounded—a murderous record truly. The Russians appear to have completely hemmed them in, and then shot them down wholesale."

"Never has the Russian evinced more clearly than in the affair of this Commission the touch of the Tartar. And yet one cannot refrain from a confession of admiration, reluctantly as it may be elicited, for the combination of boldness and diplomatic skill by which they have duped and led by the nose the Gladstonian Cabinet. They have so disgraced and insulted this Commission that not only must it have lost all the prestige it had once gained in the eyes of the Turcoman and Chahar Aimaks, but the very Afghans doubt our friendship and will to aid them. I met a party of Afghan sows to-day going to Ak Ralat. They wanted to know why we were going the opposite way. *Que répondre? Diable!* If only they knew how every man, at least every military man, of the Commission has longed to be allowed to fight side by side with them, and has pitied them when they were left to fight alone, with the Russians assailing them in front and the Saruks threatening their rear! There were 500 good bayonets and lances within 100 miles of them and some thirty British officers, and if they had been marched to Penjdeh and the Saruks given encouragement to array their 5,000 fighting men by our side, then either the Russians dare not have attacked us, or they would have run imminent risk of defeat. The highest computation of the Russian force at Merv is 5,000. I believe that the Russians must have kept 2,000 men in Merv as a check on the Tekkes, with possibly another 500 or more at Yulatan among the Saruks; that leaves 2,500 men at the most to attack Penjdeh. It should be noted that the Tekkes of Merv can turn out 15,000 fighting men on an emergency, if they can turn out a man. The Saruks of Yulatan could probably muster from 2,000 to 3,000 men. It is obvious that this formidable body of ill-disposed subjects have not only to be kept under control pending success at Penjdeh, but have to be dreaded as open and ruthless enemies in the event of a repulse. But what is the use of crying over spilt milk? All these advantages have been thrown away."

"Meantime, all the Turcoman headmen had come flocking into the British camp, some with assurances of loyalty to the British flag and promises not to move a hand's turn without orders, while others offered to raise the whole of their sections and drive the Russians out of Penjdeh. At the same time the Afghan troops were becoming impatient and eager to settle matters at once by an attack on the Russians; so much so that the Naib Salar had to send for Juma Ishan and his Kurans to pacify them. In the afternoon two Russians and eight Turcomans had the insolence to enter one of the Afghan trenches on the right bank of the Murghab, insult the men, and pull the Afghan officer's beard. This officer seems certainly to have shown much forbearance, and finally, taking the two Russians, placed them on his own horse and conveyed them back to their own lines. This was the first of a series of gross insults perpetrated by the Russians on the Afghans, with the sole object of inciting the Afghans to fire the first shot."

"Starting from Gulran at 7.30, the cavalry reached Chasma-i-Salz early in the afternoon. Arrived there, they and all the officers, the native attachés, and others with them found themselves without servants, without food, without tents, and nothing to drink but muddy water. Captain Heath and Lieutenant Wright started back with some sows and ponies to bring in helpless stragglers. They went back three or four miles, and having then picked up as many men, utterly powerless and some dying, as the ponies could carry, they returned to camp. The men of the 11th B. L. behaved admirably throughout. Many of them came into camp almost paralysed with cold, and were tended and cared for by their comrades with the greatest kindness. Many were seen to deprive themselves of the warm cloth they so much needed to give it to their fellow-soldiers. They had but one tent among them and throughout the night, it is said, they took about by tens at a time to sit in this tent."

There was none, neither for officer nor man, except the sleep of death; and that was only vouchsafed to a few. That many natives prayed for it I have little doubt. Britons are not so fond of death as all that. Such servants and sycas as had come in were either prostrate and numbed, in fact 'crumpled up' with cold, or, as it was graphically expressed, shivering and chattering idiots. After some search it was found that a few mules with tents had struggled in. Two or three of them were given to the sows and Persian mule-drivers and farashes, and in two small mountain-battery tents a dozen officers huddled. For food they had half a dozen biscuits, quarter loaf of bread, and a small piece of tinned beef. That is all the food they tasted from eight a.m. yesterday to two p.m. to-day. Any small quantity of wine and spirits that was available was reserved exclusively for the use of the exhausted and benumbed natives. The cold was intense, the floors of the tents were puddles, and the violent wind repeatedly drew the pegs. It is needless to say that sleep was out of the question. Almost every dog in camp died that night. Nine, it is said, took refuge in one of the officers' tents, thereby preserving their own lives and keeping their owners warm. As for those poor fellows who had no tents, they lay down anywhere in a *postin* blanket or a *nundah*, or in their ordinary clothing, and passed the night as best they could. The animals stood starving and shivering, saddled as they came in and without jhools; some wandering away in the night in search of food and getting lost. Those that were securely picketed turned their tails to the snow and biting blast. Next morning their tails were a bunch of icicles. In the morning those poor fellows who had to pass the night in the open air were found covered with snow. General Lumsden was out at 5 a.m. on the 5th to see what could be done to aid and rescue stragglers, and succour those who had lain out all night in the cold. As one of the officers said, when they first went round in the early morning among the figures lying motionless on the ground, some silent, some moaning, they shuddered to think that half of them might be dead. General Lumsden did all in his power to assist and relieve the miserable natives. The *Au Saif* Pass must have presented a strange heartrending sight. Imagine the ground deep strewn with snow, wafted here and there into great drifts, a wind bitterly cold and of terrific force careering along, and hurrying sleet and snow into the face of the wayfarer with stinging, blinding velocity. What is that dark, silent object half-hidden in the snow? Is it alive or dead? Perhaps, as the *nundah* or *postin* or other article of warm clothing under which they have sought shelter is raised, a movement, a shiver, a groan, or even a curse, and a prayer to be left alone to die, indicates life. Many of the poor fellows' naturally dusky feet were enormously swollen and perfectly white with frost-bite. They are lifted up, placed on a mule or pony, made as warm as possible, and then sent sharp to camp. Sometimes the groans, cries, almost shrieks of the sufferers penetrate to the ear through the mist of sleet and snow before the eye can detect aught. In one case a pitiable band was found insulated on a hillock surrounded on every side by snowdrifts, and shouting for aid in tones of despair; that is, five of the number were—two were already dead."

Can we wonder, says the *Morning Post*, if British influence is ruined in Afghanistan and profoundly injured in India after such a spectacle of brave allies deserted, gallant soldiers and patient camp-followers perishing of privation, and British officers flying in helpless misery before the eyes of thousands of representatives of all the races of Central Asia.

The *Standard* states that, although the new arrangement between England and China relating to the opium traffic has not been signed, and may not be formally concluded for two or three weeks, it has been practically accepted by the two Governments, and there is not the least doubt that its provisions will come into force almost immediately. The question has long been under consideration, and it affects one of the most important branches of the foreign trade of both China and India. The arrangement takes the form of an additional Article to the Chefoo Convention, signed by Sir Thomas Wade in 1876, and one of the clauses or sections of this Article requires its ratification, and with it that also of the Chefoo Convention, as it may be amended or altered by this additional Article. The two principal stipulations contained in it are the abolition of the inland barriers for opium, and the adoption of a uniform rate for lekin. The uniform rate of lekin is to be 60 taels per chest, while the existing Customs duty of 30 taels per chest, established by the Treaty of Tien-tsin, remains unchanged. Hitherto lekin has varied with the port, ranging from as high as 86 taels in some parts to as low as 21 in others. The adoption of a uniform rate will remove many existing causes of discontent, and as the lekin will henceforth be collected by the Maritime Customs officials instead of by the lekin officers, there will be considerable saving to the Chinese Government, at the same time that all room for uncertainty will be removed as to the whole importation of foreign opium paying its full amount of lekin into the Government coffers. There will also be an improvement in the mode of collecting the lekin, for opium will henceforth be deposited in special receiving houses, which will be in the course of a little time be converted into bonded warehouses, and the lekin will be paid to the Customs officers before the purchaser can remove the opium. The payment of 90 taels, or £30, per chest

will frank the opium throughout the whole of China; and the provincial barriers will cease to have any significance in the matter of opium, although they will remain in force for other articles of commerce. The arrangement is considered to be most satisfactory by both Governments, and the extension of the same principle of levying both the Customs and the lekin at the ports to ordinary merchandise seems likely to occur within a reasonable period of time, when articles of foreign production will be able to reach the interior of China on known conditions, and without being subject, as at present, to the virtually prohibitory tariffs of the inland barriers.

The new cession of territory acquired by the British North Borneo Company does not appear to be a matter for much congratulation. From a private telegram received from Brunei dated 18th of May, we learn that the inhabitants of the country in question, objecting to the transfer, resisted by force of arms; a severe fight ensued, and two Europeans belonging to the company lost their lives in the encounter. The name of the district in which this engagement took place is Kawang, in Borneo proper.

There is a peculiar interest about the most recent instance of secession and declaration of independence. It has occurred in the Tonga or Friendly Islands. The King, the Court, and 11,000 adherents of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, have severed themselves from the New South Wales Conference and formed the Independent or Free Church of Tonga. The grievance is that the New South Wales Conference would not consent to transfer them to the New Zealand Conference. There are large chapels the property in which is, of course, vested in the Conference or its trustees. These are deserted, and the seceding congregations worship for the present under the spreading branches of the banyan tree. The missionaries went to the islands about sixty years ago, and found the natives anything but friendly. In 1881, on the petition of the Church, headed by the King, it ceased to be a mission, and became a district, associated with a Conference. It is stated that the Royal seceder has given his kingdom a Constitution. It is certainly a tribute to the law-abiding instincts of the people that they should so far respect the technical rights of property as to submit peaceably to exclusion from their own chapels, which have probably been built at their cost, as they are large contributors to the funds of the Wesleyan Missionary Society.

IRELAND.

It is stated that, failing to get a private tenant, Lord Castletown has offered his mansion, Grands-town Manor, in the Queen's County, with a fine garden and sixteen acres of land attached, at a merely nominal rent for the purpose of a hospital or a convalescent home.

At a special meeting of the Privy Council, presided over by the Lord-Lieutenant, held on Saturday in Dublin Castle, the Right Hon. John Naish, late Attorney-General, was sworn in as Lord Chancellor of Ireland. Subsequently The MacDermott, Q.C., took the oath of office as Solicitor-General. The Right Hon. Samuel Walker, M.P., was sworn in as Attorney-General in the course of the day. Mr. Richard Adams has been appointed by the Lord-Lieutenant to be one of the Revising Barristers for Dublin in the room of The MacDermott, promoted to the Solicitor-Generalship. Mr. Frederick John O'Carroll, barrister, has been appointed Secretary to the Lord Chancellor.

The following members of the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Working Classes have been staying at the Viceregal Lodge, Dublin, as the guests of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant and Countess Spencer:—Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., Sir Richard Cross, M.P., Earl Brownlow, the Bishop of Bedford, the Hon. E. Lyulph Stanley, M.P., Mr. Jesse Collins, M.P., Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., Captain Robert Holden, and Mr. J. E. C. Bodley. The first meeting of the Commission was held on Saturday last in the City-hall, when the Commission sat from ten till seven o'clock without intermission, hearing evidence on the subject of the housing of the poor in Dublin and the townships of Rathmines and Pembroke. On Tuesday the Commission held their second sitting, when evidence was taken as to Belfast, Cork, Limerick, Waterford, Kingstown, Galway, and New Ross. The third and last meeting in Dublin was held on Wednesday, and the Commissioners returned to London on Thursday.

An Industrial Exhibition of Works of Members of the Branches of the Protestant Church of Ireland Temperance Society throughout Ireland was opened in the Rotunda, Dublin, on Tuesday, by the Provost of Trinity College. This is the third exhibition of the kind that has been promoted by the society, the object being to bring forward the works of members, and in general to promote Irish industries. At the first of the Society's exhibitions there were 400 exhibitors, at the second 520, and on this occasion the number is 665. The exhibits comprise carvings, models, turned articles, paintings in oil and water colour, paintings on china and terracotta, embroidery work, and baking and cooking. Special prizes in the last-mentioned department have been given by the Rev. Canon Bagot. The members of the society are in all ranks of life, but the articles exhibited are amateur work, and all have been executed since the society's exhibition of last year. The specimens of both embroidery and plain work were extremely varied and excellent.

The accounts of the Irish Society for the past year have just been prepared. The receipts, including a balance of £1,340, amount to £29,313. Of that sum Derry and Liberties produce £8,276; Coleraine, £2,022; Culmore Fort, £509; fisheries rent, £5,161; sale of property, £1,279. The expenditure includes permanent payments, Crown rents, &c., £1,553; grants to schools, £1,016; charitable donations, £844; Corporation of Londonderry, £1,200; in aid of public improvements, £4,729; pensions, 132; salaries and gratuities (Ireland), £1,776; visitation and deputation expenses, £806; salaries (England), £997; the governor, deputy governor, and assistant governors, for attendances at meetings and administration expenses, £741. The amount placed to deposit account at Derry is £1,279, and the balance is £226.

Mr. Errington, M.P., arrived in Dublin on Saturday, and had an interview at the Castle with the Lord-Lieutenant. The Nationalists persist in the theory that this gentleman is used by the Government to misrepresent and oppose their cause at the Vatican. Mr. T. D. Sullivan, M.P., speaking in co. Carlow on Sunday, referred to him as "a poison-bearing enemy, a spy, and a miserable tool," and declared that he was paid by the Government out of the Secret Service Fund. Mr. W. O'Brien, M.P., speaking at Tulla on the same day, said the Government were approaching the Irish people, as usual, with a small bribe in one hand and a big whip in the other. Ireland was to get a Land Purchase Bill and a new Coercion Bill. Of the two he would candidly tell them that he rather liked the Coercion Bill the better.

William Sheehan, who arrived on Tuesday night from New Zealand, was on Wednesday taken before stipendiary magistrate Eaton at Cork and charged with the murder of his mother, brother, and sister at Castletownroche in September, 1877. He was, on the application of the Crown Solicitor, formally remanded for eight days, when evidence against him will be presented. Three important witnesses have during the past nine months been kept under police surveillance.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

Speaking at a Conservative meeting on Saturday night at Thurso, Mr. H. C. RICHARDS stated that he considered the Scotch people the most long-suffering and forgiving on the face of the earth. They as a shrewd and common-sense nation had enthusiastically supported the most illogical of modern politicians, and one by one they had allowed him to trample on their most cherished convictions. Rivers of blood and millions of money had been spent, and there was nothing to show for it, and their national drink as well as that of the English working man was to bear the brunt of increased taxation, or, to be like Mr. Gladstone's promises, gradually watered down. He earnestly hoped that no stone would be left unturned by the Conservative minority in Scotland to secure their just share of representation at the next general election.

Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH, M.P., addressing on Wednesday night a Conservative meeting at Crondall, in the Basingstoke Division of North Hants, for which he is a candidate, said he did not concur in the opinion that war was wrong on any grounds. As he had been at the head of a Government department he knew it was impossible to do all they might desire, however good their intentions. The measure of local government which he introduced under the last Administration was hindered by circumstances over which he had no control. He advised the new voters not to be led away by people who said they would do this or that; but he urged them to recognise the general principles which distinguished the Constitutional party from the Revolutionary party. The new voters should be patriots before partisans. He then dealt with the foreign policy of the Government, which he strenuously condemned.

EDWARD CLARKE, Q.C., M.P., addressing a meeting of agriculturists at Plymouth on Wednesday, said it must be remembered by all sections of the English people that the House of Commons was the depository of English rights, and that it was the duty of all who valued its authority and reputation to prevent it from being undervalued and undermined. There need be no fear as to the future of the country so long as men of character and influence and association with great interests were found in Parliament.

Sir JOSEPH BAILEY, M.P., addressed a meeting of his constituents at Whitechurch, near Monmouth, on Wednesday evening. He described the present state of England's home trade as miserable, and in the course of his remarks dealt with local taxation and foreign trade competition. Such matters as the maintenance of the poor and the roads should, he thought, be met by imperial taxation, and a Government inquiry should be instituted with the view of putting the trade of this country on the same basis with that of foreign countries. He did not think that the proposed scheme for enabling farm labourers to become farmers by means of Government purchase of land could be carried out. In conclusion, Sir Joseph criticised the vacillating policy of the Government, which he said, was a disgrace. The meeting pledged itself to use every legitimate means to secure the return of a Conservative Government at the general election.

Speaking on Thursday night at a meeting in connection with the Stratford-on-Avon Conservative Working Men's Club, Mr. SAMUEL LLOYD, M.P., said the present Parliament lacked independence. Our ancestors used to expect the House of Commons to watch the Ministry of the day as jealously as they watched the Sovereign, and history recorded many impeachments of Ministers who did not behave well. Though those impeachments were often cruel, he was not sure that a measure of that description would not keep many erratic Ministers more in order, and make them more mindful of their duties to their Sovereign and the country, than the present system, by which a powerful Ministry could do as it pleased.

Sir THOMAS BRASSEY, M.P., addressing a great Liberal meeting at Plymouth, on Thursday night, in aid of the candidature of Lord Ebrington for the Tavistock Division, remarked that any Government which should neglect the Navy would forfeit, and deservedly so, the confidence of the country. In order to respond to the challenge the Conservatives had thrown out it was necessary to make some comparisons from the accession of the present Administration to office. The insufficiency of ironclad construction had been urged against it. We were enormously superior to France in first-class vessels; we were slightly superior to her in vessels of the second class, and in the old-class vessels, which were of great practical value, we stood admirably. Russia possessed only one vessel of the first class, and with the exception of Italy little was being done by other countries. The present Government had laid down ten new armoured ships, which were indispensable to the safety of our commerce. Our superiority was enormous. He claimed that the present Board had recognised the value of vessels remarkable for their speed far more fully than their predecessors. The belted cruiser class was receiving particular

attention, and in the vessels now building a steaming speed of from seventeen to eighteen knots an hour would be obtained. During the recent occasion of emergency, when it became necessary to review the strength of our resources, the Admiralty found, to our great disappointment, that they had inherited no fewer than seventeen corvettes which were unequal in speed to their fighting capacity; but our own mercantile marine contained within itself a valuable means of self-defence, and the Admiralty were able to take up at a moment's notice no fewer than twenty first-class steamers. He admitted that in the matter of armaments there was considerable hesitancy due to the desire to carry on the experiments necessary to the production of guns superior to those used by other nations. When it was finally determined to re-arm the Navy with breechloaders no time whatever was lost, and the Ordnance estimates were at once made more than a million and a half in excess of what the previous régime were spending. We had available for manning the Navy a total force of ninety thousand men. With those statistics he might say that they were well prepared for the outbreak of war, and the drain would be compensated by calls upon our mercantile marine. A great fleet was to be brought together for training, and it was confidently expected that it would attain a matchless degree of efficiency. These frank and candid statements would dispose of pessimist exaggerations, and the present Board had only been too pleased to accelerate their efforts. He commended to the country the advocacy of a strong, consistent, and national policy, and he himself preferred to invest in torpedoes and fast vessels rather than in monster ironclads. Recent events had shown a possible capacity for prompt expansion, and in a few weeks special efforts would enable the Government to command the finest flotilla of torpedo vessels in the world, perfect with those improvements which were only possible where the task of production was postponed to the latest possible hour with prudence.

Mr. CRAIG SELLAR, M.P., addressing a Liberal meeting on Thursday night at Partick, said, referring to rumours as to Mr. Chamberlain's and Sir Charles Dilke's opposition to the renewal of the Irish Coercion Act, that he was certain those statesmen would never desert Mr. Gladstone when stormy waters were ahead. They had wise men in the Cabinet, and a safe pilot in Mr. Gladstone. The Conservatives now said they also wanted the franchise to be extended; but if they had waited till the Tories passed a Franchise Bill, a century would have elapsed.

Speaking at York on Thursday night, Colonel DAWNEY, M.P., candidate for the Malton and Thirsk Division of the North Riding, said the description of Fair Trade as a sort of protection was absolutely untrue. He did not believe in a return to Protection, but he believed still less in the present system of one-sided Free Trade. He was firmly convinced that Fair Trade was the only policy which would bring back prosperity to British trade and agriculture, and save the working classes from the evils from which they were now suffering owing to unfair foreign competition.

Mr. BALFOUR, Lord Advocate for Scotland, addressed a crowded meeting of his constituents on Thursday night. Referring to the Franchise Bill, he maintained that it would be a clear and distinct advantage to the working men of the country, and would be a political gain. He expressed his belief that the Redistribution Bill would be carried after the Whitehead recess. An Acceleration Bill would have to be brought in to bring the scope of the provisions of these measures into force earlier than the 1st of January, 1886, so as to make it possible to have a general election in the autumn. In referring to the rules of the House, he said there was an absolute necessity for reform, so that the business of the country might be carried on effectively. The Government had done its best for the rescue of Gordon. As to the Afghan question he denied that they were losing everything, but if matters could be settled otherwise than by war the country would not condemn Parliament for making the attempt.

Mr. W. Woodall, M.P., and Mr. C. Crompton, Q.C., were present on Thursday evening at the annual meeting of the Burslem Liberal Club. Mr. WOODALL, speaking in support of a resolution of confidence in Government, said that as long as there was any prospect of a war with Russia in regard to the Afghan frontier question, the Tories held their hand, but the moment there was any sign of the policy of the Government being successful in averting war then all the vials of their wrath and contempt were poured forth to render a solution of the difficulty impossible. It was conceivable that difficulties might have arisen which could have been solved only by an appeal to arms, but it would have been a reproach to the Governments of civilised Powers if such disputes had been beyond the range of skilful statesmanship to solve.

Mr. Alfred Austin has written again to the *Standard* to enforce the views which he recently expressed with regard to the dangers to which "we are exposing the Empire by making the action of the Executive depend upon the will of a divided and distracted House of Commons, the will of the House of Commons depending in turn upon the shifting passions and conflicting interests of an emotional and mercurial electorate." The condition of our foreign interests and relations, all men are saying, is deplorable. They have reached that condition as a drunken man reaches the gutter, by a series of preliminary oscillations.

"It is an old and familiar story that Lord Beaconsfield had a foreign and imperial policy, which was ratified and approved over and over again by a House of Commons elected in the usual way, and in accordance with the orthodox Constitutional machinery, and that Mr. Gladstone, by a vigorous rhetorical campaign, got it reversed, and himself became the agent of a diametrically opposite policy in another House of Commons. . . . Now let us suppose that the constituencies should next autumn vote in a precisely opposite sense; that Lord Salisbury became Prime Minister, and that he were to approach Prince Bismarck with courage and frankness, and propose to renew the bonds of amity that were so rudely snapped in a couple of days at the general election of 1880? Do you not think Prince Bismarck would reply in some such fashion as this:—'Amity for how long? Our former understanding lasted just twenty months. How long is the new one to last? Till your next general election? I thank you; but an

understanding with England is out of the question, for it is not to be depended upon from hour to hour. I have found other allies thoroughly trustworthy, and you must forgive me if I prefer their friendship to yours.'"

To the objection that "This occurred once. It was done by Mr. Gladstone, to whom there is not *aut par aut secundum*. It will never occur again," Mr. Austin replies that Mr. Gladstone did what he did because our Constitutional machinery enabled him to do so.

"Now that Mr. Gladstone has taught people the trick, do you think he will have no imitators? He will have imitators as long as there are men in the House of Commons endowed, like himself, with a strong personality, the gift of vehement speech, and a passion for popularity and power. In the days that are coming they will be as plentiful as blackberries. I am quite sure that when the Tory party is in office there will never be wanting Radicals to move heaven and earth to displace it, though displacing it may entail another sudden and calamitous reversal of foreign and imperial policy; and I very much fear that, patriotic in this respect as Tories have hitherto been, only those leaders will henceforth satisfy a Tory Democracy who are prepared and able to give the Radicals a Roland for their Oliver, and to forget the welfare of the realm in their ardent pursuit of the triumph of party.

"If I am told (Mr. Austin continues) that to ask that the control of foreign and imperial policy, and, by implication, of the Army and Navy, should be withdrawn from the influences of the House of Commons and our party system, and entrusted to a stable and permanent branch of the Executive, is not 'practical politics,' I can only reply that practical politics are the most unpractical things in the world.

"Why has Russia during the last thirty years won nearly every point against us in the game that has been played in Central Asia? For the simple reason that Russia has played the game silently, steadfastly, continuously, while we have been wrangling and hesitating, going forward and then going backward, making railways to please one House of Commons, tearing them up to please another House of Commons, and allowing issues upon which depend the peace and safety of our Indian Empire, and the glory and perpetuation of our name, to turn upon Beer Bills, Vaccination Bills, Contagious Diseases Acts, Female Suffrage, and all the innumerable calls and catchwords invented by astute caucuses and echoed by bewildered candidates at a general election. Either this state of things must end, or the Empire will end."

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE IN NORTH DEVON.

Sir Stafford Northcote on Wednesday commenced a brief tour through some of the districts included in the North Devon Division, for which he is at present member, and which are embraced in the new Barnstaple Division, for which he is a candidate. At Braunton and at Barnstaple he was heartily received. The horses were taken from his carriage, and the vehicle drawn by the villagers to Mr. Webber's house. The public meeting, which it was at first intended to hold in the Chalmers' Endowed Schoolroom, was, in consequence of the lack of sufficient accommodation, held outside in the open air. Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, in his speech, remarked that we were coming to the end of this Parliament, and at the proper time he should offer his services again for their choice. Having characterised as a most extraordinary fabrication the allegation that he had opposed the addition to the franchise, he went on to review the history of the question, and took credit to Mr. Disraeli's Government for being the only one able to deal with Reform in 1867. During the present session the Conservative party had resisted, and resisted successfully, the attempt to separate redistribution from the franchise. If the Conservatives had not done that, the constituencies belonging to the counties would have found that, although their franchise was greatly lowered, and a much larger number were admitted into it, their power was not increased, because they would have been swamped by those who were brought in from the towns, and they would not have had the number of members which their importance justified. Touching next on party designations, Sir Stafford declared that the Conservatives were at least as liberal as, and very often more so than, their opponents. The former wanted to preserve and improve our institutions; the Radicals to get rid of them. There was a great deal of nonsense talked about the big loaf and the little loaf; but the first beginnings of free trade came from a Tory Ministry—as well as the total repeal of the Corn Laws. One distinction between the two parties was their attitudes respecting local taxation. While the Liberals promised a great measure of local self-government, the Conservatives had given relief to the extent of two millions sterling. In regard to foreign affairs, by Lord Beaconsfield's courage and skill what threatened to be a most formidable disturbance of the peace of Europe was conjured away, the Treaty of Berlin securing both the honour and peace of this country. Ever since Mr. Gladstone came into office he had been trying to put aside what he said, and had been forced to come back to very nearly what his opponents had done. Instead of retrenchment, he had increased taxation to one hundred millions, and had spent even more blood than money, and caused even more dishonour and disgrace than he had cost us money and blood. Sir Stafford was afterwards driven to Ilfracombe, where he visited the Conservative Club.

Sir Stafford Northcote on Thursday visited Ilfracombe Conservative Club, where he delivered a brief address. He afterwards drove to Comberton and addressed an open-air meeting. He accused their political opponents of telling good stout thumping lies about Conservatives. He claimed for the Conservative Government the credit of the repeal of the corn laws and other legislation beneficial to the working classes, including limitation of female labour under the Factory Acts. He asserted that the Conservatives had an equal share with the Liberals in the extension of the franchise, and were first to give household franchise; and the Liberal Government had done very little to improve the condition of the working classes. Since they had been in office they had done nothing for the agricultural classes except

to pass the Hare and Rabbits Bill and repeal the malt tax; but when they had a deficiency they added to the beer duty. In reference to foreign affairs, he said the Liberal policy had been throughout of bragging one week, and scuttling away the next. He condemned their vacillation, and also criticised their fiscal policy, stating they had failed to come to a satisfactory commercial treaty with France. All the rules which Mr. Gladstone laid down in the Midlothian campaign with regard to finance had been set aside.

In the evening Sir S. Northcote addressed an open-air meeting in the space adjoining the Foresters' Hall, Lynton. He was introduced by Major Hunter, the chairman of the Lynton Conservative Association, and had a cordial reception. He touched briefly on several of the topics with which he had already dealt in his previous speeches, and, referring to the policy of the present Government, reminded the meeting that when the existing Parliament was elected a good deal was said about the foreign policy of the Conservative Government having been such that no one could get up in the morning without trembling at the thought of what he might read in the newspapers. Although that was hardly true of the then Government, there could be little doubt that any anxiety which might then have been expressed was as nothing to that which was felt at the present moment. The first thing everybody now asked was, "Are we going to war with Russia? Shall we have a war with France? Are we to have another fight in Asia? Is there any more bad news from South Africa?" Everywhere uncertainty was felt as to what was going to happen. (A Voice: We must maintain our dignity.) In the year 1880 we might have talked of our dignity, because the courageous action of the then Government stopped the advance of Russia on Constantinople, and by bringing the European Powers together at the Congress of Berlin enabled the difficulties that had arisen to be settled, thereby giving the world a peace that was peace with honour. There was no Congress at Berlin now, but an interesting event nevertheless was occurring in that capital. They were told of great and glorious news which was important to the peace of Europe—namely, that Lord Rosebery had gone to Berlin to visit Count Herbert Bismarck. These were doubtless two clever young men, one representing the English Cabinet and the other representing the German Chancellor, and a meeting between them was not to be despised, even though it might only be for conversation on private matters or bets on the Derby. One could not but wonder what Lord Rosebery had gone there to say. He (Sir S. Northcote) could not say what might be the attitude of the member of the British Cabinet, but he felt assured that that of the Chancellor of the German Empire would be one of quiet and perhaps contemptuous complacency, confident in his own strength, and able when he spoke to speak with no uncertain tone. He feared, however, that the English spokesman could not speak with the same confidence that was formerly justified; and yet if Germany was strong the British Empire was strong also, and quite equal in power to any other nation in the world. The difference between now and formerly was that Lord Beaconsfield did not insult or irritate any other Power, and he certainly was afraid of none, and foreign nations knew with whom and what they had to deal. England was now, however, reaping the fruits of a different kind of administration, and had gone through many uncomfortable phases that had not improved her position among the civilised nations of the world. The great strength of the British Empire, which was larger than any other except that of Russia, was such that England need have no fear if she were but true to herself. But unfortunately during the last two or three years she had been performing the disagreeable and dangerous feat of descending from the position to which she had previously climbed. The effect of this process was to weaken her power and influence not only among foreign nations, but among her own dependencies. He desired not to be misunderstood on this point. The strength of England rested on the character she maintained before the world at large, and especially among those who were under her rule. The case of India was one of especial importance from this point of view, and it should be remembered that what was a source of strength rightly treated might under wrong treatment prove a source of weakness. England's reputation in India rested on her determination to act justly, and the confidence felt in her ability to perform what she undertook. So long as the Indian people believed in England's justice and power, so long would they stand by her; but if they found England threatening and bullying, and then scuttling and withdrawing—using confident language one day, and concessions the next—they were quick-minded enough to perceive the signs of her weakness, and would speedily fall away from her and give allegiance to that Power which was advancing to the frontier, and which they would hold to be the stronger of the two. Turning to home matters, the right hon. gentleman remarked on the general desire exhibited by the people of England to improve their social condition, but pointed out that there were two ways of doing this. One was for the people to raise themselves; the other was to try and depress those above them to their own level. The true way was the former. At the present time, however, when a great addition was being made to the electorate, ambitious and designing men were trying to make mischief by inducing the new electors to engage in a general scramble for what was good. They must be on their guard against these persons, and they should remember that the labourers of this country were now better fed, better clothed, and better educated, and called upon to work a fewer number of hours, than was the case only a few years ago. The Conservative party believed that this improvement might go on until all the working classes were materially raised in the social scale. He especially cautioned the new electors against entertaining the wild communistic ideas put forward by unscrupulous agitators, and added that the Conservative party were deeply attached to the old institutions of the country, which they were quite prepared to improve, but would prevent, as far as they were able, from being uprooted. Referring to the question of land nationalisation, and its division among the labouring class, he commented on the absurdity of the theoretical projects that were being advanced by Radicals ignorant of all the essential conditions of successful cultivation, and contended that in order to benefit the masses confidence should be promoted, and the employment of capital should be en-

couraged in agriculture as well as commerce. It was not the mere possession of land, but the power of profitably working it that had to be considered. It was all very well to say, "Here is a number of rich people, and it will be a very good thing to divide their property amongst us." That would not be the part of honest and wise men. The great support of sound agriculture was capital, and if there was no security for expending capital it would not be expended. This was not a country with which they could venture to play tricks, because the great power of England depended upon her credit, and the conviction that she had the means and determination to keep her engagements. Cut that off and they would suffer materially. They should reject with scorn the proposals of Radical agricultural theorists. They were about to take their part in the Constitution of the country. His belief was that if that privilege was exercised with a due regard to the condition of the country, a real and earnest desire to maintain the Constitution of this great Empire, and to promote the common welfare, the next Parliament might be a great blessing and strength to the nation. If, on the other hand, they sent up men who were prepared to listen to the voice of the first prompter of anything in the nature of plunder, and to overthrow all law, they would bring upon themselves and upon their children a series of grievous retributions. He was not one of those who distrusted the people. He had every confidence in them, but they should not allow themselves to be led away by plausible theories, or to be attracted by the glittering prospects held out by some of the agitators and demagogues of the day. He believed that if they supported the institutions of the country they would find in them a sound and safe way to security. The Conservative party had borne their share in the great improvements that had been made during the past half-century. Amongst other things, they took off the large burdens that were laid upon free articles of commerce in the time of Sir Robert Peel, and modified the hours of labour imposed on women and children in mines and factories. But all these things were forgotten or referred to under false names. The administration of this country was a matter that could not be dealt with without certain sacrifices and certain exertions; but what Government ever placed anything like the burdens on the people of this country that the present so-called Liberal Government had done in the present year? Was this so great a recommendation of the Government which came in pledged to the retrenchment policy and to a reversal of the policy of its predecessors? The expense had been caused by the policy, or rather impolicy, of the Government, doing and undoing, threatening and skulking back.

MAY MEETINGS.

The annual meeting of the Army Scripture Readers' and Soldiers' Friend Society was held last week at Exeter Hall, under the presidency of General Basden. The Report, an abstract of which was read by Mr. BLAKE, stated that the year which had come to an end would occupy an important place in the military annals of Great Britain. Among others whose conspicuous valour had shed a halo upon the records of the 19th century, the memory would be recalled of General Charles George Gordon as a Christian soldier. The committee would fain give durable expression to his lifelong sympathy with the work of the Army Scripture reader by raising a lasting tribute, in the shape of a Gordon Memorial Fund, for the support of special lay agents to be known as Gordon readers. Owing to the proposed addition of 15,000 men to the numerical total of Her Majesty's land forces, more readers would be urgently and promptly required. The Church and the Army had sustained a painful bereavement in the death of the late Bishop Piers Claughton, who, as Chaplain-General of the Forces, was ever ready to aid this society by his experienced counsel and judicious support. The CHAIRMAN, in his address, observed that the events of the last few months had caused the eyes of the whole world to be concentrated upon the soldiers of the British Army. Those soldiers had ever been found ready to endure the hardships and privations of a campaign. This country could not, therefore, but feel that they had a duty to perform to the British soldier. That duty the society was doing its utmost to carry out, and it was to be hoped that the slight increase in its funds would in the future be still further augmented. The society had now 87 readers; but that number would be seen to be inadequate when the size of the Army was taken into consideration, and when it was remembered that they were distributed all over the Empire. Taking India, for instance, where there were 60,000 British troops, he found that in Bombay there was only one reader, in Madras three, and in Bengal, where there was by far the largest number of troops, there were only two readers. There was an impression that the Scripture reader could do very little in India, but he believed that to be a mistake; for there were many Christian men to be found among the soldiers of every regiment. The chairman then alluded, with regret, to the loss the society had sustained by the deaths of Bishop Claughton and three readers. After the adoption of the report, the meeting, by a resolution, devoutly accepted the successes which had crowned the labours of the society in the Sudan, in Bechuanaland, and at the several stations at home and abroad, and so many calls to increased effort on behalf of the British army. Addresses in support of the work of the society having been delivered by Colonel PAGE, Colonel SANDWICH, Sir A. J. LAWRENCE, and others, a vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman.

The annual meeting of the supporters of the Ragged Church and Chapel Union was held yesterday week at Exeter Hall. Mr. Joseph Peters occupied the chair. The Rev. BRAMAN CASSIN read the report, which stated that the Union sought to utilise for good every form of instrumentality in operation. Other institutions supplied the workers—this society provided them with a workshop; other organisations trained the preachers—this association aided in maintaining halls of worship. The labours of the committee were addressed to a class for whom apparently no man cared and for whose spiritual care no fitting provision was made. For less than £500 per annum 102 preaching stations were kept open, and the total attendance at those services during the year was 9,380, and the aver-

age attendance 92. There had also been 69 week night services with an average attendance of 95, 36 children's services with an average attendance of 93, and 51 Sunday-schools with an average attendance of 77. The committee concluded their report by expressing the hope that larger funds would be placed at their disposal for the maintenance and extension of Ragged Church work. The financial statement showed that the receipts, including the balance brought forward, amounted to £438, while the disbursements were £495. The CHAIRMAN commended the work of the society, and said that it had been the means of doing a large amount of spiritual good among the masses, and earnestly appealed to those present to help the society in its blessed work. The report was adopted.

The annual meeting of the friends of the Spanish and Portuguese Church Aid Society took place in the Exeter Lower Hall on Tuesday afternoon, the Archbishop of Dublin (Lord Plunket) presiding. The objects of the society are stated to be "to aid the native reformed episcopal churches in Spain and Portugal in the faithful preaching of the Gospel, and generally to help and encourage them in the great work of evangelisation and reform in which they are engaged." In connection with these churches there are said to be now a considerable number of flourishing congregations, schools, and Bible classes. At the meeting on Tuesday there was a fair attendance. Prayer having been offered by the Rev. C. D. Fox, the Rev. L. S. TUGWELL, the secretary of the society, read the report, which recorded a more favourable financial position than was the case last year, the overpaid balance amounting only to £897 15s., as compared with over £2,000 last year. The CHAIRMAN observed that the report told of an advance all along the line, an advance as regarded the work of reform being carried on abroad, and an advance as regarded the work of Church aid carried on at home. It was well that a distinction should be drawn between the two kinds of effort, because the work of reform in Spain, Portugal, and Mexico was being carried on not by those in England or Ireland but by the people themselves. As to Mexico, the insuperable difficulty of ascertaining what was the present position of the work there, what were the special objects for which aid was sought, and what was the particular channel through which the aid was to be conveyed, had proved to be insuperable, and in consequence the committee did not feel that it would be either fair to the public or to themselves to continue to solicit help for the Church in Mexico. If the work in Spain and Portugal was really to progress as they wished, it was of supreme importance that they should, as far as possible, encourage evangelistic efforts upon the part of those congregations which had already been called into existence. He was certain that there were numbers of anxious inquirers who were desirous that the truth should be brought to bear on their own souls. It was, however, impossible at the present juncture to expect that the churches in Spain and Portugal should be self-supporting, although he thought it most desirable that they should by degrees try and contribute something more towards their own self-support. He believed the work to be a real work, and that, carried on as it was in the face of obloquy, of persecution, and sometimes of martyrdom itself, it was not due to self-interest. He believed it was due to a profound conviction in the hearts of those who were engaged in the work that there was no satisfaction to be found in the husks which Rome supplied in the place of spiritual food, and that the only true nourishment was to be found in the pages of God's blessed word. On the motion of the Rev. H. W. WEBB-PHELPS, vicar of St. Paul's, Onslow-square, the report was adopted; and on the motion of the Rev. Canon HAWKESLEY, seconded by the Rev. J. B. CABRERA (Bishop-elect of the Reformed Spanish Church), the following resolution was agreed to:—"That the cause of Church reform in Spain and Portugal continues to demand our warmest sympathy, and calls upon all who value the privilege of an open Bible to contribute to the work of evangelisation in those countries." The proceedings shortly afterwards terminated.

The annual meeting of the Additional Curates Society was held last week at the National Society's rooms, the Sanctuary, Westminster, where a large number of the clergy and supporters of the society were present. The Archbishop of York occupied the chair, and was supported by the Bishop of Carlisle, the Bishop of St. Albans, the Bishop of Colchester, the Dean of Lichfield, and Archdeacon Harrison. The committee's annual report, after expressing thankfulness for the increased support the society had received and the larger work it had been enabled to do, stated that, besides renewing former votes, new grants amounting to £2,775 were given during the year to forty-six parishes. The total number of grants made towards promoting the employment of curates in 589 parishes was 653, having an aggregate population of about 5,000,000. There were in those parishes, including the society's curates, 1,608 clergy, which was an average of one for some what more than every 3,000 people. In two years the committee had voted an additional sum of £4,705, bringing the society's liabilities for grants up to nearly £47,000 from the general fund, and £88,000 counting the money locally raised. The total income of the society last year amounted to £85,227, as against £81,491 in the previous year. The CHAIRMAN, in his opening address, said that the society had great claims upon every member of the Church of England. At the present moment there were circumstances which made them all very much interested in the support and welfare of this very excellent society, and he rejoiced to find that the funds on the whole were in an elastic condition, and had suffered less than other institutions had at the present time. The populations of parishes did not diminish, although the means of the clergy for maintaining a curate out of their own income were constantly diminishing. It was sad to think that at a time when there was a strong religious feeling throughout the land the clergy were unable to take advantage of that new flow of religious feeling owing to the fact that their incomes were sharing the general depression, and he believed that no class deserved more the sympathy of the community than the parochial clergy, who had unavailingly laboured under circumstances which made even moderate success extremely difficult. They had heard a great deal about the spread of in-

fidelity in the country, but he believed that there never was a greater amount of religious activity and a stronger sense of religious obligation by the laity. This was evinced by the increasing number of candidates for confirmation, the increasing income of their great societies, and the increasing number of communicants. They saw it, in fact, throughout every stratum of society. Under those circumstances they could speak of missionary work and prospects in the most hopeful tone. With regard to home missions, they all realised the fact that wherever this society sent a new curate there was sure to be abundant fruit. He believed that the poor of England were kept calm, quiet, and honest because they believed the sympathies of the higher class were directed towards them, and that they would not do violence to that bond of sympathy in order to better their condition. The Bishop of CARLISLE moved a resolution adopting the report and expressing satisfaction at the progress of the society, and stated that, although much good had already been done, there was urgent need of more home missionary clergy. The motion was agreed to, and the meeting was addressed by the Bishop of St. ALBANS, the Bishop of COLCHESTER, and others.

The Church of England Purify Society yesterday week held its anniversary at Westminster Abbey. The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Webb-Pelpee, in Henry VII.'s Chapel, followed by the annual meeting in the College Hall, under the presidency of Lord Mount-Temple. His Lordship dwelt on the very valuable but quiet work of the society in arousing the energies and the determination of men of all classes to set up a higher standard of morality in this country. The Rev. Canon BODD, who moved the adoption of the report, alluded to the efforts of the Bishop of Durham and others in gradually creating a public opinion in favour of social purity. The society was said to be greatly in want of funds.

DRAWING IN BOARD SCHOOLS.

The new Education Code just issued ordains that drawing shall be taught as a class subject in all elementary schools. Hitherto the only examination set has been that of the Science and Art Department, and the average time devoted to work with the pencil was about one hour per week in ordinary schools. But drawing is now to be "ground" like spelling, arithmetic, grammar, and geography.

The following is the syllabus:—Standard IV.: Freehand drawing from the flat and from simple rectangular and circular models. Drawing to scale. Geometrical figures with instruments. Standard V.: The same as 4th, with the addition of easy common objects. Plans and elevations of plane figures and rectangular solids in simple positions. Simple scales. Standard VI.: The same as 5th, but of greater difficulty. The same as 5th, with sections. Standard VII.: Drawing any common objects and casts of ornament in light and shade. The same as 6th, but with circular solids and sections.

This, says the *St. James's Gazette*, is well-intentioned, of course; but it is all but impossible. Many boys and girls reach Standard VII. when they are little more than 12 years old, and these young children are to be forced to do the tasks required of young men and women who take the Third Grade Art Certificate at Kensington. The School Management Committee of the London School Board decided that the syllabus could not be covered in girls' schools, and they resolved to leave schoolmistresses free to reject the new subject. But last week the sentimentalists of the Board mustered in force, and a long debate took place. One gentleman said that "the lives of girls must be made as happy as the lives of boys;" and, by way of increasing their stock of happiness, he advocated piling on some four hours per week of extra labour. Another speaker protested, in the name of British womanhood, against the injustice of robbing girls of artistic pleasure. Another quoted Mr. Ruskin; and this seems to have settled the matter. The Board resolved, by a majority of sixteen against ten, to enforce the teaching of drawing in all girls' schools. Naturally, the teachers have expressed their dismay; but no notice will be taken of their protest, and the higher culture will be zealously administered to helpless children who are in most cases pestered to the verge of endurance already. The ordinary Board school girl will now learn reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, needlework, domestic economy, "literature," music, two "special" subjects, Scripture, drawing, and calisthenics. If any girls' school does badly in drawing, the head teacher will be reprimanded, and the struggle to escape censure will assuredly bring about unpleasant results. Not one girl in a hundred has any natural talent for drawing; and at least 50 per cent. of school-children drudge on for years in learning to produce a respectable copy. Practical men have for long contended that, as soon as a child shows that it possesses no aptitude for drawing, no more of its time should be wasted. The Department declare that all alike must go through the mill, and the School Board aid and abet the Department. Vast sums will be spent on drawing materials; new instructors and inspectors must be hired; and an expense of some thousands will be added to the rates to do more harm than good. It should be remembered, too, that although the teachers will be required to give instruction in third grade work, few of them are capable of teaching even the first grade; and this the Board must know well.

RARE BIRDS IN LONDON.

London is almost the last place in the world where we should expect to find strange and rare birds. And yet, as a matter of fact, London is still the haunt of a large number of the British ornithological fauna. To take a single instance; the woodcock is almost everywhere a rare bird. It is shy in its habits, it flies high, and it is extremely wary and suspicious. And yet it seems that for years past the woodcock has not been uncommon in London. The correspondent of a weekly journal which interests itself warmly in all questions of natural history has collected authenticated instances of the appearance of the woodcock in London within the last few years. The bird, it seems, has been seen at Clapham, at Holloway, in St. James's-park, in the Regent's-park, in St. John's-wood, on the banks of the Serpentine, in Eaton-place, in Portland-place, in Kensington Park-gardens,

and in Kensington-gardens. It has been found in the Strand, where it was killed by flying against a telegraph-wire; in the Junction-road, Holloway, where it was shot; in the South Kensington Museum and in Upper Clapton, where in each case it dashed itself to death against a window; in the St. John's-wood-road and upon Ludgate-hill, where it was taken up in an exhausted condition. Now, for every woodcock that is either seen or captured there clearly must be dozens that escape notice altogether; for Londoners, even when loitering in the parks, are not in the habit of looking out for strange birds.

But there is really no reason why London should not be haunted by what are commonly considered wild birds. London has a very large acreage of park-land—its parks, its squares, and a certain number of private gardens—where no gun is ever fired and no bird's-nesting is allowed. The thickets of Battersea-park and of the gardens of Chelsea College are alive with birds. You can hear the nightingale there any evening; thrushes and blackbirds are plentiful and all kinds of rare birds are occasionally to be seen. Then, too, London is on the banks of a large river, and has in it and by it several large sheets of water. The reservoirs of the New River Company are particularly attractive; but, as a matter of fact, birds will come year after year to any place where they can get food and are unmolested. The Botanical Gardens in the Regent's-park abound in thickets and shrubberies and tall trees. The birds there are never disturbed; their nests are never torn down; no gun is ever fired. And the consequence is that anyone who knows English birds by sight, and will arm himself with a field-glass, will discover in the course of an hour in the society's gardens varieties the existence of which in London he had never even suspected.

But there is one place, not in London, but near London, which needs its own Gilbert White. The natural history of Windsor Forest has never yet been written. A naturalist with the true instinct in him might spend years there, and put every day to good purpose. It is a relic of primeval England, which, except for a short period during the shooting season, remains in almost all the silence that possessed it before cities were built or castles reared. Most of the wild animals sold in London at the bird-shops are furnished by the keepers of Windsor Forest. The dormouse, for instance, is one of the prettiest of children's pets. It is a delicate, large-eyed, sleepy little creature which can soon be made so tame that it will eat in the palm of your hand or allow itself to be carried about in your pocket. Almost all the dormice in the London shops come from Windsor Forest. So do the squirrels, which are taken from the nest while they are still young and helpless, and put under the charge of a cat that has been deprived of her kittens. A cat will act most complaisantly as foster-mother to a dozen young squirrels at a time. Fifty years ago squirrels were common enough in Kensington-gardens, and could be seen there any day jumping from bough to bough, or dashing along the turf from tree to tree. In the precincts of Regent's-park, in parts of Chelsea, in Newington, in Kennington and Fulham, and other parts of London, are here and there to be found old-fashioned houses with large gardens. These are rapidly disappearing before the hand of the speculative builder, who lays them out as "estates." But a few of them still remain. The fortunate possessor of such a garden will find it easy to attract strange birds if he will only exercise a constant vigilance against two enemies. The first of these is the domestic cat, which can only be kept down by waging war against it relentlessly. An air-gun is not exactly a sportsmanlike instrument, neither is a steel trap; but, unless you wish every nest in your garden robbed, you must make the cats in the neighbourhood understand that you set traps and practise with an air-gun. The second enemy of strange birds is the London sparrow, who is as bellicose and pugnacious in his attitude towards all strangers as is the London street-boy. However, he does little harm, and you can drive him away by pulling his nests to pieces as fast as he builds them.

With a garden of even limited extent all kinds of experiments are possible. You can tempt birds to you. Starlings breed plentifully in St. John's-wood, and can be seen in the morning hunting for worms and insects on the trim little lawns, together with thrushes, and occasionally even a blackbird. You can tempt martens if you will take the trouble to stick up some old martens' nests with a little Portland cement. With a little management you can induce the Australian grass-parrot to attach himself to your house as tenaciously as will the common pigeon. In summer he will, more or less, look after himself; in winter you must supply him with canary-seed in his artificial domicile. It would take a bold sparrow indeed to steal food from a grass-parrot, which has an awkward habit of attacking intruders of its own size and breaking their legs with a single snap of its muscular little bill. In very small gardens the idea of pets must be abandoned. Even a jackdaw, with all its cunning and courage, is sure sooner or later to fall a victim to the cats. A hedgehog, however, will thrive anywhere, and if allowed to alternate his existence between the back-garden and the kitchen, will do much to frighten away the mice and to keep down the blackbeetles. But no garden is available for practical natural history unless it is of sufficient extent to contain a dozen fairly-sized trees with a proportionate allowance of under-wood.—*St. James's Gazette*.

The 70th anniversary festival of the Royal Caledonian Asylum was held on the 22nd inst. at the Freemasons' Tavern. The Marquis of Lothian occupied the chair, and amongst those present were Lord Colville of Culross, Lord Saltoun, General Lord Mark Kerr, Sir Charles R. M'Grigor, General Sir W. Wyllie, Sir William Fraser, General Hanley, Colonel Moncreiff, Colonel Donald Maclean, Colonel T. A. Grant, Colonel Gordon Alexander, Major Grant Stephen, Captain Morrison, R.N., Mr. Colin Mackenzie, Mr. Barclay Brown, and Mr. Thomas Inglis (secretary).

Painted widows as a memorial of departed worth and gallantry have an interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor has at all times pleasure in showing his works in progress, both for church and hall, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates sent. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—*The "Art" Works*, 4, Berners-street, London, W.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

Taking at random some of the most noteworthy pictures in the exhibition, we commence with "The Track of a Hurricane," by Mr. J. M'Whirter, A.R.A., in which the blighting, destructive influences of a storm are very finely shown. A grand rocky landscape, with deep ravine, whilst uprooted and levelled trees testify to the fury of the mighty element which has passed that way. But the sky is brightening, and the distant placid lake is in strong contrast to the scene of desolation around. To turn to a subject wholly different, the peaceful, sunny river view, with cattle, "Sinodun Hill, from Day's Lock, Dorchester," by Mr. Vicat Cole, R.A., is one of those beautiful idyls to which the artist sometimes treats us. Mr. Hubert Herkomer A.R.A., exhibits a grand landscape in "Found," an imposing rocky view, with wounded man seated under some rocks discovered when in that sore plight by a woman in charge of some goats. Mr. Keeley Halswelle sends "Welcome Shade," a flock of sheep nestling under some trees, near a brook in the meadows, and sheltered from the heat of a broiling sun. Mr. Halswelle has taken the trouble here to paint from nature, and to work well and carefully. Mr. Colin Hunter's landscape, with a figure is a good performance, but not, in its own kind, quite of the best. "The Rapids of Niagara above the Falls" by the same artist, is not very impressive, it is large in scale; but there is no movement in the waters, no life—no transiency—in the sky. Mr. David Murray sends "The Rother at Rye," also "Last Leaves," which is by far the best work of the two. Mr. Marks' "Treatise on Parrots," shows us "the life-long lover of sweet fowls," a human fossil divorced from the ordinary interests of his time and of the world. Mr. Dendy Sadler depicts a monkish company, strong perhaps for argument, strong perhaps for social pleasure, but more especially qualified, according to the dictum of the ancient proverb, for the cunning preparation of a salad, which more than any other dish needs the presence of three different temperaments for its due compounding: "a prudent man to put the salt; a stingy man to put the vinegar, a prodigal to add the oil." And Mr. Sadler has represented three ecclesiastics to whom the salad may safely be confided. Mr. Walter Hunt's little canvas is sure to be popular. It is called "A Dog in the Manger," and its trifling and innocent study is only that of the invasion of the manger, from which the calves are fed, by a dog, who is not easily to be dispossessed. On the stable or cow-house floor are some fowls and a wonderfully well-painted chick; but what constitutes the chief marvel in this naive and refreshing canvas is the soft and fluffy texture and the timid and surprised expression of the calves who are so gravely inconvenienced. Mr. F. Morgan exhibits a bright and pleasant little work, in which there is a good deal of "go" and childish vivacity—"Ring a Ring of Roses," boys and girls, full of the careless happiness of childhood, dancing in the woods. The most distinctly amusing picture in the Academy is Mr. Burton Barber's "Once Bit, Twice Shy." It is a doubtful experiment to make an elaborate joke on canvas, but if the jokes are as good as this one there is much to be said for them. A small child has captured a white fox terrier puppy, and is about to administer to the nose of the struggling animal a dose of mustard. The dog, as the title implies, has had the same experience before, and once is enough. But its young mistress has no idea of paying any attention to random protests, and is proceeding with perfect calmness to the execution of her duty. The contrast between her tranquil indifference and the ludicrous horror depicted on the face of the puppy is a pictorial triumph which ought to secure, and indeed has secured, for this picture a very high place among the popular successes of the exhibition. Mr. Henry Woods, A.R.A., sends over several little pictures from Venice, and all of them of right good artistic quality. His "Cupid's Spell," in the large gallery, a young Italian peasant engaged in the pleasant time-honoured amusement of making love to his sweetheart, is a beautiful work; and not less so is his single figure study of a little girl with a basket, "Returned from the Rialto," the little maid being a direct importation from Venice. Mr. J. R. Weguelin's classical subject, "The Swing Feast," showing a number of the girls of Athens celebrating the death of Erigone, by swinging themselves from trees, and singing hymns in her honour, is rather quaint and curious, the picture being executed with extremely firm, masterly touch. Mr. Bernard Evans exhibits a truthful and very beautiful little picture in "The Home Farm," shewing the artist's close adherence to, as well as his sense of the beauties of nature. "An Interruption in the Dance," by Mr. J. Haynes-Williams, is a picture, we think, might with advantage have been hung on the line. The scene is a corner of a ball-room in Spain with a group of figures of ladies and gentlemen. Upon the left is a musician seated, tuning his guitar, and he is being addressed—perhaps scolded for stopping the dance—by a lovely dark-haired senora. Behind her another young lady is stooping as she adjusts her ball shoes. The subject, a passing incident during a ball, is treated with singular grace, and is very cleverly worked out. A melancholy grace appropriate to the scene pervades Mrs. M. M. Cooke's view of "An Arab Cemetery." To the sad and mystical interest attaching to the place the artist has done sympathetic justice. The general arrangement of the curious objects in the cemetery bespeaks skill in composition; and the many monuments in various size and shape give to the background picturesque diversity of outline. Meditating among the tombs are three female mourners, whose figures are pathetically expressive of bereavement and have all the "abandon" of genuine grief. Mr. Philip H. Calderon's picture of "Andromeda" has much merit in it. The figure of the girl bound to a rock around which rave the winds and roar the waves is the very type and model of female symmetry. Very beautiful, too, is her face, which bears but little mark of disquietude, albeit Neptune's marine monster cannot be far off. It may be presumed that the lovely captive has a vision of Perseus speeding to her rescue. The painting, full of atmospheric impressionism, has that element of terror and danger which in works of the imagination often conduces to the sublime. A most poetical picture it certainly is—so poetical that the least sentimental of spectators will scarcely brook the prosaic explanation of the fable that Andromeda was merely courted by the captain of a ship who attempted to

carry her away, but was prevented by another more favoured lover, who prudently placed her under lock and key. For simple, unaffected elegance of pose and for a certain grace and gentleness of expression, "feminine" in the loveliest sense of the word, no portrait in the Academy is more worthy of admiration than that by Mr. Raffaello Giannetti, entitled "In maiden contemplation, fancy-free"—a beautiful Venetian girl with a poppy in her hand. Through the dress the fine symmetry of the form is suggested with signal skill; the hands are delicately modelled; and the purity and transparency of the natural flesh-tints are emulated in the picture with surprising subtlety and brilliancy of colour.

The Ninth Room has been reserved by the Royal Academy for water-colour paintings, and several of its own members have sent valuable contributions. Messrs. Millais, Peter Graham, Stacy Marks, H. W. B. Davis, Pettie, Brett, and Fildes are mentioned among the exhibitors in this room, and the pictures of some of them rank among the best contributions of the year. Mr. Millais sends an exquisite picture, "Orphans"; a charming large-eyed child, with dress of white and yellow, carrying in her pinafore the little rabbit that seems to be her only playfellow. Mr. Graham's "Carting Wrack" is a shore scene, with a man loading his cart with seaweed. The sky and sea are painted with Mr. Graham's usual mastery, and the horses show the trained animal-painter. More interesting are the two pictures by Mr. Davis, "Lost Sheep" and "Donegall." Mr. Marks is very much at home in "At the Printseller's," his eighteenth century connoisseur is revelling, in a manner to make the modern collector envious, in mezzotints after Sir Joshua, just fresh from the printer. Of Mr. Pettie's "Sir Peter and Lady Teazle" we have already spoken. Mr. Brett's small picture of "The Lighthouse on Cape Wrath" is a striking scene of daybreak at sea, where the deep violet of the waves, the purple of the distant cliffs, and the pale blue of the sky are very successfully wrought into a fine and curious scheme of colour. Sir John Gilbert presents us with his hundredth "Gipsy Encampment"—the usual scene of a mediæval knight and squire surrounded by people whom it pleases the painter to call gipsies; and Mr. Prinsep's "Oriental Slave Girl" is among all this artist's contributions perhaps the one with which it is least easy to feel dissatisfied. The "outsiders" also contribute several works in this room which attract attention. The "Cronics and Crotchets" of Mr. Lionel Cowen is perhaps the best. His picture represents a musical party, a trio of old friends in old-fashioned costumes, playing their old fiddles in an old book-room; and the artist, whose painting of detail is singularly exact, has succeeded in investing the scene with a curious sense of quietude and age. Two or three still-life pictures next attract attention; such as the "Etching" of Mr. W. H. Snape, the "Chrysanthemums" and the "Roses" of M. Fantin, who is as unapproachable as ever in flower painting; and the "Still Life" of Mr. Harnett, one of the most miraculous representations of books, a flute, some sheets of music, and a brass lamp that we have ever seen. But perhaps the most elaborate piece of execution in the room is the "Dulce Domum" of Mr. Atkinson Grimshaw, which represents, not, as might be supposed, a set of schoolboys singing their breaking-up song, but one sentimental lady sitting in an easy chair while another plays the piano. For the subject and the composition of the picture there is little to be said, but there is hardly to be found in the exhibition such another piece of sheer painting as the dress of the lady in the foreground.

The battle pictures are gathered principally in one room in the exhibition—No. 10—and there is one among them distinctly carrying off the palm, "The Last Stand at Isandhlula," by Mr. Charles E. Fripp, which holds the spectator fascinated with a feeling in which, perhaps, horror predominates. That terrible day in January, 1879, when our brave troops were immolated by countless numbers of savages, is placed vividly before us. The fierce Zulus, triumphant in their numbers, and in a courage which is doubtless characteristic of the race, are engaged slaughtering the remnant of the 24th Regiment. All that artistic talent could do in forcible delineation of the tragic incidents of a battle—the stabbing and cutting of bayonet and spear—and the result of the fatal bullet, are here shown with a graphic power holding the spectator almost spellbound before the canvas. Different in subject, in that it carries us far back into the pages of history, and in incident, inasmuch as it is a brave king charging at the head of his cavalry, Mr. Ernest Croft's "William III. at the Battle of Landen" shows us the monarch heading his troops as he attacks Conti in the hope of retrieving the battle. Mr. Croft's work is full of the ripe artistic power of which he has given us many proofs. Another war picture in the same gallery represents an incident in the campaign still going on in Egypt, "The Battle of Tamai, Soudan Campaign, 1884," by Mr. G. Douglas Giles. Here, again, we have a contest between disciplined and undisciplined valour. Our troops are about recovering the guns they had lost, whilst they are attacked by fresh swarms of Arabs. The picture is hardly so attractive in a picturesque sense as either of the other works we have referred to, whilst it is still a record bearing the stamp of truth and of much careful, well-applied artistic labour. Here also hangs the work of Mrs. Butler, "After the Battle," representing the arrival of Lord Wolsley and his staff at the bridge of Tel-el-Kebir at the close of the action. Lord Wolsley and his staff are riding straight out of the picture. On either side are groups of the Gordon and Cameron Highlanders, some wounded, some, with bonnets in air, cheering the General; while he, sharply reining up his horse with one hand, seems to be rapidly taking in the position, so that at the next moment he may give orders for the pursuit. It is impossible to say that the subject is as happy as either "The Roll Call" or "Inkermann," for the red of the English uniform necessarily strikes upon the eye as harsh and crude when seen against the sand of the desert and the Egyptian sky. But Mrs. Butler has lost none of her skill in rendering the British soldier in all the varied situations that war brings forth; and her painting is as spirited as ever. Mr. R. Caton Woodville shows us how a brave officer could meet death in his life-size portrait of "The late Commander Wyatt-Rawson, R.N., killed at Tel-el-Kebir, September 13, 1882." Com-

mander Wyatt-Rawson is represented dismounted, and rushing forward to the fight, when he fell mortally wounded. The portrait is painted for the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, and is in all respects a fine and effective work. The great attraction of this room is Mr. J. D. Linton's picture of "The Marriage of the late Duke of Albany." Royal marriages always interest a vast number of people, especially when portrayed by so skilful an artist as the President of the Institute; and the recent death of the lamented young Prince lends special importance to this picture. Mr. Linton has chosen the moment when the bride and bridegroom are turning to leave the altar; on the Prince's left stands the Queen, surrounded by the Royal Family of England, while the bride's relatives and her two bridesmaids are grouped opposite. Everybody will easily identify the various *dramatis personæ*. It is enough to say that on the whole the likenesses have been well caught, though the painter has hardly done justice to the Princess of Wales or to the grave yet genial features of the late Archbishop Tait. The painting shows Mr. Linton's well-known qualities, especially in the creamy dresses of the bridesmaids and in the dexterous rendering of the bride's white satin and lace; and if we take account of the great difficulties of a subject in which portraiture has to be considered first and artistic composition second, the picture may be pronounced a success. Other works in this room that are worth seeing, are a capital domestic picture, "The Fisherman's Wife," by Mr. Arthur Hacker; a large Oriental subject by Mr. Norman; Mr. Blair Leighton's "The Secret," somewhat commonplace in conception, but brilliantly painted; Mr. Colin Hunter's "Salmon Fishers"; and one of Mr. Weekes's amusing pictures of geese, "A Daring Highway Robbery."

In the next room is Mr. Stanhope Forbes's "Fish Sale on a Cornish Beach"—a large picture, painted in the artist's effective French manner, excellent in drawing and in composition, but flat in perspective, and fanciful if not false in colour. Mr. H. G. Glendon's elaborate scene from "The Bride of Lammermoor" is vigorous and dramatic, but not quite first-rate of its kind. Such, too, is the very clever "Portrait of a Lady" by Mr. C. M. Kennedy, who is rapidly going forward as a portrait painter; the "Jairus's Daughter" of Mr. Jacob-Hood; the "Two Invalids," of Mr. Lance Calkin; and Mr. J. R. Reid's clever but muddy-coloured picture, "The Fatherless" are also worthy of notice. In another part of the room is the only contribution of Mr. Seymour Lucas, who has taken us to the scenes which followed Sedgemoor fight; a wretched fugitive peasant is sheltering in a cottage; his wife or sweetheart presses against the door, listening with an agonised face as "the whirlwind of cavalry sweeps by." The picture is dexterous and effective. Then there are the forcible landscapes of Mr. Picknell, "Wintery March," and Mr. C. E. Johnson's "Slopes of Ben Nevis," the two, which are strongly contrasted in manner and feeling, being among the best landscapes in the exhibition.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

Of the five provincial music meetings to be held this autumn—at Hereford, Birmingham, Chester, Bristol, and Leeds—we have the preliminary arrangements of two now announced. The festival to be held in Chester Cathedral is the first in order, and will come off on July 22, 23, and 24, under the patronage of the Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales. On the first morning, Wednesday, July 22, Gounod's *Redemption* takes precedence; on Thursday morning we have Bach's motets "Blessing, Glory, and Wisdom," a concerto for organ and orchestra by Handel, a new oratorio, *Daniel*, by Dr. Bridge, organist of Chester Cathedral, and finally Rossini's *Stabat Mater*; and on Friday morning will be given Mendelssohn's *St. Paul* and in the evening Handel's *Messiah*. There will also be miscellaneous concerts in the music-hall on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, which will include Berlioz's *Faust* and Beethoven's "Pastoral Symphony." The principal vocalists are Miss Mary Davies, Miss Anna Williams, Mdm. Patey, Miss Hilda Wilson, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. J. Maas, Mr. Brereton, and Mr. Santley. Herr Strauss will lead the band, and Dr. Bridge will conduct. In the Hereford festival in September Mdm. Albani, Mdm. Patey, Mdm. Enriquez, Miss Anna Williams, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. Harper Kearton, Mr. Brereton, and Mr. Santley are engaged, Mr. Carrodus leading the band, and Dr. Colborne, organist of the Hereford Cathedral, conducting. The programme of the order of the oratorios has already been given, and it may be added that at one of the evening concerts to be given in the Shirehall will be performed a composition by Mr. C. L. Williams, organist of Gloucester Cathedral, called *Twilight*. This work is written in eight parts, and will be conducted by the composer, who takes the organ at the Hereford Festival.

The interesting church of St. Martin's, Canterbury, which bears the reputation of being one of the oldest, if not the oldest, in England, has lately been the scene of recent discoveries of much interest to archaeologists, the latest made by Canon Routledge being that of a Norman hagioscope or "squinch." The opening is in the north-west wall of the nave, at its junction with the tower. It is a Norman insertion in a wall of Roman construction, a wall which is now seen to be similar to those which form at least the lower portions of the nave and chancel. There are regular courses of Roman brick, and the surface of the original wall has been covered with the characteristic salmon coloured mortar. A coating of plaster two or three inches thick has covered up and concealed the ancient walls, which have for the most part stood intact since first erected by Roman or British Christians in the third or fourth century. The Romano-British sanctuary was afterwards profaned to heathen use, or allowed to fall into decay, until it was, as Bede records, repaired and reconsecrated to Christian worship for Queen Bertha. The original fabric has undergone, in the long course of time, many changes; it was already of venerable age when the Norman builders pierced the walls to insert door or window, squinch or piscina, which still further lapse of ages once more concealed. Yet the ancient walls are there, and St. Martin's remains a memorial of Christian worship in Britain earlier by several centuries than the coming of Augustine.

The fifteenth annual report of the Deputy Master of the Mint states that the amount of gold coined during the year 1884, though exceeding by more than a million the amount coined in 1883, was not large, and the silver coinage, which in 1883 reached the abnormal figure of £1,274,000, did not greatly exceed the average. The coinage of bronze, on the other hand, was larger than in any year since 1875, and the colonial coinages executed were unusually numerous. All the coinages required for colonies during the year were undertaken by the Mint, the additions made to the coining power of the department in 1882 having rendered it unnecessary that any part of the work should be performed by contract with private firms. The coins struck during the year 1884 were of no less than thirty-four different denominations, and the total number of good pieces struck was 56,363,301, as against 39,119,714 in 1883, and the value, real or nominal, £3,157,966 10s. 1d. The good pieces of Imperial coinage consisted of £2,338,513 in gold, £684,433 in silver, and £69,346 in bronze. With regard to the bronze coinage, of the amount issued in 1884, £44,450 consisted of pence, £14,990 of halfpence, and £5,895 of farthings, as against £37,590 of pence, £9,350 of halfpence, and £2,630 of farthings in 1883. Mr. Fremantle states that:—"The seignorage on the coinage of silver, £91,870, was, as usual, the principal item in the profits of the year, but the receipts were increased to a much greater degree than in former years by the profit on the coinage of bronze, which amounted to no less than £72,000. The very low price paid for silver bullion and for bronze bars both contributed to these results, and it should further be mentioned that the loss on the withdrawal of worn silver coin from circulation, which is paid out of the Mint Parliamentary Vote, was considerably less than usual." Mr. Fremantle concludes his report with a reference to the unsatisfactory condition of the gold coinage. He says:—"I regret not to be able to include in my record of the events of the past year any announcement that the question of the withdrawal of light gold coin from circulation has received a settlement. My last report described the provisions of the Bill brought in by Her Majesty's Government, and read a first time in the House of Commons in May, 1884, for restoring and maintaining the integrity of the sovereign coinage, and for substituting for the half-sovereign a 10s. piece containing one-tenth less fine gold; and it might have been hoped that the opinion of Parliament would be taken on the proposal made. Owing, however, to the general withdrawal of Government measures which took place in the month of July, the Bill was not proceeded with last session, nor has it been reintroduced this year. The matter, therefore, has for the present made no progress, but several returns were in the course of the session ordered by the House of Commons, which elucidate points connected with the gold coinage, and among them one showing the Mint-charge on the manufacture of gold coins in the principal States of Europe. This return, as giving information not easily accessible, is printed in the appendix."

There is now on view at Mr. Edward Joseph's gallery in Bond-street a very curious and, it would seem, genuine relic of Queen Elizabeth. This is a small prayer-book, 3in. by 2in., in which the Queen has written in a very neat hand, on sixty-five leaves of vellum, prayers in English, Greek, Latin, French, and Italian. The inside of the shagreen case, which is adorned with ruby clasps, contains a pair of miniatures, of the Queen and the Duc d'Alençon, painted by Nicholas Hilliard, and the book is evidently a *gage d'amour* prepared by the Queen for her suitor, probably about 1581, when, as readers of Mr. Froude will remember, she announced to the Court that she had accepted him for husband. The prayers are very autobiographical; the writer speaks of herself as "drawing my blood from kings," and thanks God for "passing me from a prison to a palace" and "placing me a Sovereign Prince over this people of England." The history of the book can be traced from James II., who gave it to the Duke of Berwick, whence it passed to Horace Walpole, and afterwards to the Duchess of Portland. At her sale, in 1786, it was bought for Queen Charlotte for 101 guineas. She left it to one of her ladies-in-waiting, from whom it was acquired by the late Duchess of Leeds; thence it passed into the late owner's hands. It is described in Walpole's *Anecdotes of Painting*, in his account of the famous miniaturist Nicholas Hilliard.

Another, being the lower, portion of the old wall in Little Bridge-street has just been laid bare by the demolition of its foundations of the Cock in St. Martin's (or Cock) Court, Ludgate-hill. That tavern stood at the south-western angle of the street and the court we name. The wall is now again visible to a depth of some 12ft. or 14ft. below the road surface at a spot over against Evangelist-court and a little northwards of Dolphin-court. Along the northern side of Pilgrim-street may be seen the continuation of the wall between its modern brick facing and the cheesemonger's shop, whereof the cellar rests against it, that stands opposite to the side of the Cock. In March, 1882, was pulled down so much of this wall as closed the roadway of Little Bridge-street into a narrow passage at its eastern and higher end. The Roman wall lay further eastwards, as is clear if only from the discovery in that direction of certain contemporary graves, which by the law must have been extra-mural. And this Blackfriars wall is not, as is commonly supposed, an actual relic of even the later wall that here, crowning the steep declivity at whose base ran the turbulent Fleet, protected London on the west. It is the wall which the Friars Dominican set up on their removal hither from Holborn, by Lincoln's-inn, temp. Edward I. They found high favour with Queen Eleanor and her Royal consort. The King, indeed, supplemented the gift to them of the ancient Montfitchett Tower for building material, by granting them a charter to demolish the existing London wall, and to reconstruct it so as to include the new sacred precincts. For this work it is evident that the friars used the original masonry. Thus it came about that the wall that until then ran due south between the Old Bailey and St. Martin's, Ludgate, to the Thames, turned westward down the now Pilgrim and Little Bridge Streets, and thence made a return southwards to the riverside at a spot between Water (antique Blackfriars) Lane and the Fleet's mouth. After the fire at Ludgate-hill, 1792, a watch-tower was discovered, May 1st of that year, on the wall in this quarter. This barbaric, or burgh-kenning, stood

about half the way down Little Bridge-street, say by the southern end of Dolphin-court.—*Builder*.

A splendid haul of giant skeletons is reported from Homer, in the United States. The district is a prolific field of Indian mounds, and important discoveries are continually being made there. On the 4th inst., beneath a small mound at five feet below the normal surface, five gigantic skeletons, with their feet to the east, were found in a grave with a stone floor. Remnants of burned bones and charcoal were plentiful in the grave, together with numerous stone vessels and weapons. The skeletons were those of veritable giants, and no mistake; the head of one being the size of a wooden bucket. Each of the giants must have been at least 9ft. in height. Among other striking articles in the grave was a beautifully finished stone pipe, the bowl being large and polished, and engraved with figures of birds and beasts. This is especially interesting, as showing that the use of tobacco does not always, as alleged by some medical authorities, stunt growth. There was beside the pipe a huge knife, shaped like a sickle reversed, and having a wooden handle held by leather thongs; also a kettle holding about six quarts. It is said by those who are most competent to give an opinion in the matter that this is by far the most valuable find of giants ever made in America, and probably one of the oldest. It is a well-known fact that the bones of elephants, rhinoceroses, mastodons, and other huge animals have before now been exhibited and accepted as proof of prehistoric giants. The presence, however, in the grave at Homer of the pipe and the kettle is conclusive proof that the skeletons are those not only of genuine but also of genial giants.

It is against the rules of the University Press to publish any statement of the numbers of copies of the Scriptures issued by them; but the *Daily News* has authority for stating that the sales since the publishing day have been altogether unprecedented. "The enormous stock provided has barely been sufficient for the demands of the trade, and in some parts of the country—Edinburgh, for instance—supplies of most of the editions have quite run out, and the whole machinery of production is now again in full activity. Oxford is again working night and day at the printing, and the establishment in Aldersgate-street and several private firms besides are piping all hands to the pumps for binding the sacred volumes. It becomes an interesting point for speculation as to whether the sale of the Revised Bible will assimilate at all to that of the New Testament. There was an enormous demand for the New Testament at the outset, and it is believed that considerably over a million copies were put in circulation within a comparatively short time of the first issue."

The results of the Society of Arts examinations have just been published. There was a satisfactory increase in the number of candidates, 1,208 having presented themselves at 44 centres; whereas last year there were 991 candidates and 38 centres. Of these 1,208 candidates 953 passed and 255 failed. The number of papers worked was 1,321; of these 145 took first-class certificates, 410 second class, and 474 third class, while to 292 papers no certificate was awarded. Eleven of the 13 subjects set down for examination were taken up. In two no examination was held, as the requisite number of candidates—25—did not present themselves. The largest number of papers worked—336—was in bookkeeping. Other favourite subjects were—Arithmetic, 171; English, including composition and correspondence and précis writing, 118; shorthand, 253; theory of music, 243. In French there were 96 candidates; in German only 28.

Under the active direction of Mr. Alfred Marks, the hon. secretary, the Society for Photographing Relics of Old London continue their search for interesting nooks and corners and picturesque buildings, both public and domestic, taking, as usual, by preference those relics of Old London which are manifestly doomed to disappear under the ruthless advance of metropolitan improvements. The eleventh year's issue of their publications comprises twelve large and handsomely-mounted views by Mr. Dixon, of Albany-street, regarding most of which Mr. Marks has furnished brief letterpress descriptions. Our threatened Inns of Court furnish on this occasion no small proportion of the subjects. Among these are Staple-inn Hall and the beautiful Garden House in Clement's-inn, on behalf of which Mr. Augustus Hare published recently an almost pathetic appeal, together with several localities of the Inner and Middle Temple dear to the multitudinous friends of Tom Pinch and Ruth. The mounted sheet of photographs of minor relics—such as the sculptured boy in Panyer-alley, with the quaint inscription claiming to mark the highest ground, "When you have sought the City round," the figure of Queen Elizabeth, originally standing in the Old Lud Gate, and so forth, is, if we mistake not, an entirely novel feature of these welcome annual issues. Altogether this busy and useful society have now issued 108 views of London localities and objects all of more or less interest, and not a few already vanished for ever.

At the Lyceum Theatre, on Wednesday, was performed before a crowded house Mr. Will's play *Olivia*, an adaptation of *The Vicar of Wakefield*, which was enthusiastically received. *Olivia* was originally produced at the Court Theatre, March 30, 1873. Its success was then chiefly made by Miss Ellen Terry, whose performance of the vicar's daughter was an immense advance on anything she had previously done. It has been put upon the stage of the Lyceum principally on Miss Terry's account, although the revival gives Mr. Irving the opportunity of adding another highly finished, thoughtful, and eminently artistic performance to a series of which he may reasonably feel proud. In the part of the Vicar he treads, for him, entirely new ground. There is true pathos in his acting, an undemonstrative sincerity, and a truthfulness which future audiences will assuredly clearly recognise. The play is in every respect perfectly mounted, and we see a singularly perfect and picturesque presentation of Goldsmith's pure and beautiful pastoral. Mr. Weuman plays Mr. Burchell; Mr. Howe, Farmer Flamboyant; Miss Winifred Emery, Sophia; Miss Coleridge, Polly Flamboyant; Mr. Tyars, Leigh; and Miss L. Payne, Mrs. Primrose; while Mr. Terriss retains his original part of Squire Thornhill; and Mr. Norman Forbes is again the Moses. Mr. Irving thanked the public on his own behalf and that of his company for their appreciation, so unreservedly proclaimed, of the general performance.

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Premium Reserve 300,243 9 11
Balance of Profit and Loss Account 62,986 15 3
£1,532,235 5 2

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The Life Fund, now amounts to 3,340,918 11 2
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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, MAY 30.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

No fresh information is forthcoming as to the progress of the negotiations between England and Russia on the Afghan question. The presumption is that the difficulties which intervened in the way of a settlement are in course of adjustment. The farce of referring the Penjdeh incident to arbitration is said to be abandoned, and its abandonment is clearly desirable, unless Mr. GLADSTONE is anxious to heap up yet more ridicule on his unhappy Government. Mr. GLADSTONE will be well advised in bringing to a speedy termination the preliminaries of the capitulation that he is negotiating. As soon as the terms of truce are finally arranged, it will remain for the Indian Empire and the English people to steadily prepare for the war that is clearly inevitable. Well-informed opinion on the

Continent is in complete accord with the views held by all competent authorities in India and at home as to the impossibility that the present settlement can prove a durable one. The forces of Russian aggression are not likely to be stayed by the frontier that is now being agreed upon. There is nothing in the new boundary that is likely to check for long the impulses of Russia's "manifest destiny," and it is quite certain that Russia's ambitions have not yet reached their goal in Central Asia. The rulers of the Indian Empire may be trusted to utilise the armistice for the purpose of strengthening the Indian military position, both for defensive and offensive objects. It will be for the Home Government to lend to the Indian Executive a steadfast and consistent co-operation in carrying out the plans of military and political preparation that may be devised. It will be for the Home Government, too, to prepare for the coming struggle by a diplomacy that will not leave England isolated and friendless in Europe in the future, as well as by strengthening and developing the naval and military forces of the Empire. The danger is that when once the imminent risk of war is at an end, the lessons that have been taught during the last few months will be ignored, and the Empire will be allowed to drift on until it is finally committed to a life-and-death struggle for supremacy and even for existence in the same condition of unreadiness which has lately been on all sides forcibly indicated.

The visit of Lord ROSEBURY to Berlin and his interviews with Prince VON BISMARCK have naturally excited the curious speculations of politicians. There is no necessity to assume that Lord ROSEBURY has been charged with any direct official mission. If Mr. GLADSTONE is questioned on this point when Parliament re-assembles, he will assuredly deny that any political significance attaches to the way in which his colleague has spent his Whitman vacation. It is quite certain, however, that Lord ROSEBURY proceeded to Berlin in pursuit of definite political objects, and there can be little difficulty in conjecturing what these objects must have been. The reports that have appeared of the conversations that have been held between Prince BISMARCK and Lord ROSEBURY are, of course, absolutely untrustworthy. But there is no reason to doubt that in the statements they give of the CHANCELLOR'S views of the political position there is substantial accuracy. Lord ROSEBURY will be enabled to report to the Radical Cabinet that, so long as the foreign policy of Great Britain is conducted in accordance with the principles that commend themselves to Mr. GLADSTONE, so long must Great Britain expect to find itself practically confronted with a coalition of the Continental Powers. Lord ROSEBURY has unquestionably learned that no tolerance for Mr. GLADSTONE'S policy of "consistent cowardice" and limitless lunacy is to be looked for from the German CHANCELLOR. The criticisms and the conclusions on the conduct of affairs by the present English Government which Prince BISMARCK has indicated are simply those which all Englishmen of ordinary intelligence and impartiality form and express. Lord ROSEBURY'S journey to Berlin will unquestionably prove a failure so far as it was intended to placate the contemptuous hostility of the German CHANCELLOR to the methods and proceedings of Mr. GLADSTONE'S Government. The English people, in the meantime, cannot but view with suspicion this dubious mission. HER MAJESTY'S Ambassador at Berlin is the proper medium of communication between HER MAJESTY'S Administration and the German Government. If Lord ROSEBURY'S intervention is necessary, it is that some undignified appeals for German assistance, to be repaid by some fresh concessions to German ambitions, are being discussed. Lord ROSEBURY is, besides, not a personage to whom sensible men would entrust serious negotiations. He has doubtless done well in taking Mr. GLADSTONE as his companion and protégé in the place of CONSTABLE, the jockey; in combining the pursuit of politics with a passion for the turf; and in marrying a daughter of the House of ROTHSCHILD. But whilst these facts sufficiently account for his place in a Radical Cabinet, they do not suffice to secure for him the profound consideration and confidence of his countrymen.

The encounters that took place at Père-la-Chaise at the beginning of the week between the Paris police and the supporters of the Commune serve to show that a prolonged experience of Republican government has not sufficed to reconcile the Revolutionary party in France to existing institutions. The insurrectionary spirit that has been bitterly opposed in turn to Monarchy and Empire is not

less hostile to the Republic. The possibility must always be present to Republican Ministers that the Government which was set up by a successful *émigré* is probably doomed to be overthrown by some similar street-rising. The harsh methods of repression that followed the raising of the Red Flag are probably due to an intimate conviction that the Revolutionary impulses with which a large part of the population of Paris is saturated can only be held in subjection by the resources of superior force. For the time tranquillity has been secured, but street fights such as those of this week leave bitter memories, that rankle amongst an excitable people, and are apt to be followed by further disturbances. The funeral of VICTOR HUGO is naturally looked forward to with some trepidation from the fear that what is intended to be a national pageant may be converted into a political manifestation. In VICTOR HUGO Revolutionary France recognises one who was not only a poet, but a politician, who was thoroughly in sympathy with the faiths, the hopes, and the dreams of the Revolution. When he is borne to his unconsecrated grave in the Panthéon, all Revolutionary Paris will follow him to show its mourning for the genius that it claims as its own. It will be well if the calm and peace that befit the solemn occasion are maintained unbroken throughout the day of the national ceremony.

THE END OF "TOO LATE."

Lord ROSEBERY returned yesterday from Berlin, and we fear that neither Lord GRANVILLE, with whom he had a prolonged interview, nor the rest of his colleagues, will have been able to derive much comfort or satisfaction from his Lordship's report of the results of his visit to the German capital—"mission" we suppose we must not call it, since the greatest pains have been taken to make the public thoroughly understand that Lord ROSEBERY had "no special mission whatever" to Berlin. At the same time, it was, we are reminded, only natural that, while at Berlin, Lord ROSEBERY should wish to "make the personal acquaintance" of Prince BISMARCK, and equally natural that the conversations between the British Cabinet Minister and the German CHANCELLOR should "range over all those diplomatic questions which are of such deep interest to both statesmen." It may be doubted whether this rather feeble attempt to minimise the very obvious significance of Lord ROSEBERY's journey will serve the purpose of the Radical Government. The true character of Lord ROSEBERY's visit is, in fact, quite evident on the face of it; so are the circumstances that gave rise to it; equally so is the fact of its failure. Lord ROSEBERY was despatched by his colleagues to Berlin to make a last desperate appeal for German favour. That is the plain truth, though an Englishman may well blush to have to tell it. We cannot recall any time—certainly within the last two hundred years—when a British Government has found itself compelled thus to grovel before a foreign Power. We would fain disbelieve that it is the case now; but we can see no way—there is no way—out of the inference that this is exactly what Mr. GLADSTONE's Government has been doing, and (what is worse) doing unsuccessfully.

Our readers cannot be more sickened to read than we are to write, week by week, the tale of our country's humiliation and dishonour. But the duty of facing the facts of the national position is paramount. That Lord ROSEBERY went to Berlin on a forlorn hope; that he was sent with the object of inducing Germany to accept now, five years too late, an alliance with England; that he has met with the only reply that could possibly have been expected by any sane man—a plain rebuff conveyed with Prince BISMARCK's well-known directness of speech—all this seems but too probable. The Government could only have brought themselves to stoop to the humiliating as well as the hopeless expedient of applying to Prince BISMARCK to extricate them from their difficulties, by the knowledge that their position is absolutely desperate. It is not merely that Germany, since we refused her proffered alliance, has entered into engagements with other Powers. Even if no such engagements existed, what have we to offer to her and to Europe? For instance, one of the great grievances against us is that we have grossly mismanaged the affairs of Egypt. Who can now place any faith in the assurances of our Government, that, if only they are allowed a free hand, they really will set themselves to work to reform the Egyptian Administration? Would Englishmen themselves trust any such promises of their own Government? If not, how can

they expect foreign Powers to trust them? If the patience of Europe is tired out, can we feel any surprise that it should be so? France and Russia, no doubt, were always hostile to our tenure of Egypt; but that was not the case with Germany and Austria, as is shown by their ready acquiescence in our occupation of Egypt during the past three years; and the goodwill of the Central Powers was sufficient, while it lasted, to keep the hostility of the others in check. Now that all this is reversed, our Government have actually nobody but themselves to thank for the fact. Prince BISMARCK cannot help us if he would; and we have nothing to offer him by way of inducement to give us his goodwill.

And we may go farther. There is fair room to question, as Mr. ALFRED AUSTIN has publicly done, whether even a change of Government in England can now get us out of the terrible difficulties we are in. It has long been evident that our national prospects were hopeless with the present Ministry in office. That, we say, has long been a mere common-place of politics. One obvious remedy, however, remained; and that was the advent to power of a Conservative Government. Recently, however, it has become painfully apparent that even that remedy is, perhaps, "too late" also. Of course it ought to be tried, and tried at once; but there is no sort of certainty—rather the reverse—that it would succeed in averting the evils that threaten us. It may, in fact, be that matters have gone too far already. We cannot expect to effect a rearrangement of European combinations by a mere change of Ministry. Besides, as Mr. AUSTIN pertinently asks, what guarantee would Europe have of the stability of a Conservative Government, and of the permanence of its work? An able writer in the June number of *Blackwood's Magazine* shows how admirably the policy adopted and carried out by Lord SALISBURY and Lord LYTTON was calculated to avert the danger which now menaces India. Yet all their labours were in vain because a Cabinet of Patriots and Statesmen was forced to make room for a Cabinet of—we forbear to say what. It is of no use to disguise facts, however unpalatable. We are not pessimists, and there may perchance be hope for the country if there is a change of Government at once. But even so, the hope is a slender one. We have already been compelled to yield in Central Asia, and Europe seems determined that we shall also withdraw from Egypt altogether, that we shall give up all hope of wielding any preponderating influence over the Suez Canal, and reap no reward for all our sacrifices in Egypt and the Soudan. If that is really what is going to befall us, what will be the verdict of history upon the series of events of which this is the culmination? Will posterity feel pity for our misfortunes, or will it not rather say that a nation which tolerated, and by tolerating consented to, the misdeeds of the miserable men whom it chose to maintain in power, richly deserved to reap as it had sown?

PARTY ALLEGIANCE.

The career of the present House of Commons may well have set men thinking about such topics as those of Party Allegiance and the comparative advantages of Triennial Parliaments. We shall hardly be suspected of any very great affection for the Mandate theory. The frequent and direct interference of the people in the affairs of government is certainly much to be deprecated. Our existing Constitutional system knows nothing of the modern doctrine of the Mandate. Hitherto it has been assumed that a man who is worthy to be elected as a representative of his fellow-citizens is fit to be trusted by his constituents to exercise the functions of legislation according to his discretion. That he should be subjected to the perpetual and minute interference of a body of electors, the average of whose knowledge of public affairs is presumably inferior to his own would be a very great abuse. But it has been reserved for the present House of Commons to exemplify an abuse even greater than this. It cannot be doubted by any reasonable or candid man that this House of Commons has long since ceased to reflect the opinions of the country—not on mere details of legislation—but on great and momentous issues of national policy. The House of Commons is swayed, not by a consideration of what is best for the interests of the country and the Empire, but solely by motives of Party Allegiance. Mr. ALFRED AUSTIN, in the new number of the *National Review*, complains in forcible language, that as a nation, we seem to

have lost all sense of duty and patriotism. And here is the outcome: "No policy at all; a sham Army, and a disorganised Navy. For six years the Executive strove to be on friendly terms with Germany and Austria. Then, that ceased; and for the last five years the Executive has striven to alienate Germany and Austria, and to propitiate France and Russia. The result is, we have alienated and offended them all. . . . By Party Government—in other words, by the House of Commons—we have deliberately made all the enemies we possibly could, and brought about our absolute isolation."

That the evils which Mr. AUSTIN deplors actually exist is admitted by many thoughtful and candid Liberals. The *Pall Mall Gazette* expresses its belief that "no reasonable man, not wholly blinded by party spirit, would for a moment dispute that the House of Commons is going wrong, and in the particular manner described by Mr. AUSTIN." Our contemporary proceeds to point out what it deems the true source of the mischief—the ignorance and indifference of the electorate. Now we are not only quite prepared to admit the ignorance and indifference of the electorate, but we have over and over again pleaded the existence of this ignorance and indifference as a reason against extending the franchise. And although we feel certain that public opinion on the whole condemns the present Government, there is too much reason to believe that the heart of the country is not stirred to the extent it should be at the indignities to which it has been subjected. Not even the degraded and abject assembly that inherits the dignified title of "the House of Commons" could have dared to support the Ministry in its wrong-doing if the feeling and spirit of the nation had been what they ought to be. Now, therefore, that the electorate is enlarged, let us by all and every means educate the electorate, particularly in Foreign Affairs. The admirable speeches delivered this week by Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE furnish an excellent model for instructing the masses in what are now their political responsibilities.

But, having said thus much, we are not in the least prepared to admit that the *Pall Mall Gazette's* account of the evil is by any means a complete one. The new electorate may be very ignorant and indifferent, and may sorely need political education. But that does not excuse or palliate the treachery to the country of which the present House of Commons has been guilty by maintaining Mr. GLADSTONE and his colleagues in office. The final explanation of the whole matter is not even that men put Party before Country. A further question still remains—why is it that they prefer Party to Country? The answer is that Radicalism and Patriotism are mutually incompatible. In the old days we had Liberal patriots and Conservative patriots. But that is all changed now. Radicalism is essentially anti-patriotic and anti-national. Radicalism means ultimately treason against the SOVEREIGN and treason against the Country. Therefore the remedy is to stamp out Radicalism as a national curse. That is the object we ought to have in view in educating the electorate—to eradicate the false and wicked notions instilled into the minds of the people by base and artful schemers, and to teach our countrymen the duty of upholding those great national principles which it is the aim and endeavour of Conservatives to maintain.

THE COMMUNIST RIOTS.

The attention of politicians in the French capital is for the moment diverted from Tonquin or Cairo to events nearer home. The idea of street disturbances in Paris calls up so many terrible associations that, even when apparently trifling in themselves, they cannot be regarded without anxiety. It is now fourteen years since the insurrection of the Commune, after threatening the existence of social order in France, was finally crushed by the Government at Versailles with a severity perhaps greater than that exhibited under any of the Monarchical régimes of recent times. The remnant of the Commune, for long either fugitives or deported exiles, were some years ago permitted to return. Ever since that time the anniversary of the fall of their temporary power has been in one way or other commemorated by sympathisers among the workmen of the Paris *fau-bourgs*. This year, as it happens, the anniversary was immediately followed by the funerals of one or two recently surviving participants in the Commune; and these will be followed, again, by the public funeral of VICTOR HUGO, whom, while all Frenchmen join in honouring him as one of the first of French

men of letters in this century, the ultra-Republicans and Socialists would appropriate to themselves because of the wild political and social opinions to which he latterly gave expression. The excitement arising out of the riot on the first of these occasions is thus kept alive by repeated opportunities for demonstrations against the police and the authorities.

Nor can it be said that the Executive have inspired much respect for their firmness or consistency by their manner of dealing with disorder. Of course it may be an open question how far the display of a flag of a particular kind is a matter worth interfering with. In England, no doubt, under ordinary circumstances, even the display of a seditious emblem might be treated with mere contempt. London sympathisers with Fenianism have often assembled in Hyde-park with their green banners, and so long as they neither commenced or provoked a riot they were left to themselves. But among an excitable population the display of emblems appealing to any strong feeling of the multitude may become, whether so intended or not, a signal to disturbance which no Government could tolerate. It is the difference between a ringing of bells for gaiety or for mere mischief, and the sounding of a tocsin. And the French Ministry seem to have invented a distinction, satisfying neither to the friends nor to the enemies of order, between a flag and an inscribed banner. A plain red flag, it seems, is not to be tolerated; but a flag bearing certain words is considered to have no further meaning on account of its colour. And even the words "Comité Révolutionnaire" of one or other "arrondissement," seem to be regarded as giving it the harmless character of representing an election committee or other lawful organisation. It is natural enough that those who are molested for displaying an uninscribed flag should think that they are in this respect hardly used, or that the forbearance shown to devices representing some organised body is an unwilling tribute to their strength.

Many of those who are now inclined to take part in *émigrés* feel that they and those like them had much to do with the founding of the Republic. It was the populace of Paris on Sept. 4, 1870, who in proclaiming the fall of the Empire, and installing the "Government of National Defence," took a step for which France in general was then hardly prepared. The danger of a Monarchical Restoration was one of the pretexts put forward for the insurrection of the March following. Its suppression, and the severe chastisement of the Reds of Belleville and elsewhere, was set down to secret or avowed Monarchists, who undoubtedly predominated in the Versailles Assembly. But, as the Republic was consolidated the working class found that the new form of Government possessed no magic power to improve their condition or redress what they thought their wrongs. That the Duc DE BROGLIE or M. DE FOURTOU gave place to M. DUBAUX or M. FERRY, that Marshal MACMAHON was succeeded by M. GREY, brought neither high wages, nor cheap food, nor independence of their employers. M. GAMBETTA, even, who had taken no part against the Commune, lived to be hissed in Belleville. Neither universal suffrage nor the absence of a Monarch and a Court, have brought France much nearer to the social transformation which is the real dream of so many of the artisans of French cities. The more advanced Republicans have become powerful in the Chamber, and in proportion lose weight with those whose own objects are not thereby furthered.

Under these circumstances it is not surprising if the memory of the Commune is still cherished by what the French call the proletariat. How far its leading idea—the conversion of France into a federation of petty Republics, each with its own socialist organisation—has still any great hold on the popular mind, does not appear. But the labouring class, if it does not destroy all authority and all private property in the names of "Anarchy" and "Collectivism," will at least use the instrumentality of the State to extort a ransom of a formidable kind alike from the capitalist and the rural landowner, large or small; and some system which will break down the power of capital, whose name is such an object of antagonism to the Revolutionists, is no doubt regarded by large numbers of the lower orders as practicable and eventually to be realised. Something of the kind is to them the only object worth aiming at in political action. That under a system of universal suffrage these subversive ideas are not dangerous to the social fabric is, of course, owing to the decided antagonism which the rural population, who are, or see their way

to become, freeholders or *métayers*, exhibit to any approach to Communism—an antagonism almost more vehement than that felt by the wealthy class. Their acceptance of the Republic was rendered possible by their perceiving that it was very different from the Republic of the barricades, which was associated with the red flag. But for this very reason, the Republic, even in its more Radical form, cannot remove the antagonism which exists between different classes, and which breaks out from time to time in street manifestations which may mean little, but are a sign of the dangerous elements below.

To those who would make Victor Hugo's funeral a political display, he is merely the author of works like the *Histoire d'un Crime* or the *Année Terrible*. To those who value his memory as that of a great poet and writer, he probably seems scarcely to be regarded as a serious politician at all. Not that he was by any means wanting in earnestness or in his zeal for the idea of popular liberty and in his denunciations of despotism or clericalism. But that he had any clear views of the social or political organisation by which wrongs were to be redressed and nations made happy, is extremely improbable. His sentiment about the Commune seems hardly to have been such as would entitle him to be honoured by its friends as their champion, though he was ready enough to sympathise with them in their misfortunes after its defeat. Readers of the *Année Terrible* will remember the passage where, after vehemently denouncing the burning of a library by "men of the people" who failed to recognise their friends in the writers who had enlightened mankind, he makes a workman simply answer "But I cannot read," and leaves it to be implied that society was to blame for his ignorance. This very much expresses the mixed and shifting feelings of the poet amid the crimes and sufferings of civil conflict. It appears that the member of the Academy, M. MAXIME DU CAMP, who was to have delivered a speech on behalf of that body in honour of Victor Hugo, is by his writings peculiarly obnoxious to the Communist party. He now objects to face a possible demonstration of hostility from those who would not think such a scene a profanation of the grave of one whom they profess to reverence. And it seems probable that this famous body, so identified with the literary fame of France, will have no official spokesman at the last rites paid to so great a name in contemporary literature.

By the secularisation of the Panthéon the French Ministry, without conciliating Revolutionists, have contrived to give a fresh offence to Frenchmen of opposite sentiments. To enter on a wanton conflict with religious feeling seems always the fate of French Republicans, and has often proved a disastrous policy. The Church in France may not now be as great a power as it has been even in the present century. But it is undoubtedly the one powerful rallying point of opponents of the Republic, if it is disposed to be so made use of. The Catholic feeling among the people is the one popular sentiment which can be opposed to that of democracy. And it seems a singular perversity by which, instead of avoiding, French statesmen of late years have seemed to delight in provoking, a collision with it.

The *Kentish Gazette* has opportunely called attention to the fact that nearly all the Radical candidates for the next General Election, in Kent, are advocates of the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church. It will be a grave mistake for Churchmen to ignore this warning of coming danger, and neglect to take every precaution to meet it.

It is, perhaps, sufficient to note, with regard to the Bishop of Manchester's ideas as to the prevalence of a belief in a "localised" Presence of our Lord in the Holy Eucharist, that Dr. Fraser now cites certain language once used by Mr. Bennett, of Froome, and also a well-known passage in Mr. Keble's *Christian Year*, in support of his allegations.

DEATH OF THE DOWAGER COUNTESS OF GALLOWAY.

We deeply regret to record the death, on Monday evening last, at her residence in Eaton-square, of Harriet Blanche, Dowager Countess of Galloway, after an illness of only two hours' duration. Lady Galloway was the seventh daughter of the sixth Duke of Beaufort, and was born on August 18, 1811. In 1833 she married Randolph, ninth Earl of Galloway, who died in 1873. Ever since her recovery from a severe illness the year before last, the state of her Ladyship's health had been such as to demand the greatest watchfulness; but it has only been during the last two months that her condition has given rise to any serious anxiety. On Monday morning, however, the medical report was more than usually satisfac-

tory, and there was an entire absence of any outward indication of the impending crisis. In the afternoon of that day Lady Galloway was able to walk downstairs, and afterwards went out for a drive, accompanied by her youngest son, the Hon. FitzRoy Stewart. On her return, her Ladyship showed some symptoms of fatigue, which were not considered to be of an alarming character, but at about six o'clock Lady Galloway was suddenly taken ill, and the critical nature of the attack was at once only too evident. Medical aid was obtained within a few minutes, but the sufferer never rallied, and seemed rapidly to become unconscious. In about two hours from the first moment of seizure the end arrived, and shortly after eight o'clock the Countess expired, peacefully and free from pain. The members of her family present were the Ladies Helen and Isabel Stewart, Lady Jane Spedding, and the Hon. Randolph and the Hon. FitzRoy Stewart. Canon Fleming was also in attendance, and read the Commendatory Prayers. Throughout Tuesday the body of the deceased lady lay in the drawing-room, surrounded by innumerable floral tokens of the loving devotion of her family, and the respectful affection of her friends.

The funeral took place yesterday at the cemetery at Kensal-green, the first portion of the Burial Service having been previously said at St. Michael's, Chester-square, Canon Fleming officiating. The body was conveyed on an open car from 85, Eaton-square, to St. Michael's, the chief mourners being the Earl of Galloway, Captain the Hon. Randolph Stewart, Major-General the Hon. Alexander Stewart, and the Hon. FitzRoy Stewart, the sons of the deceased in this country; the remaining son, Colonel the Hon. Walter Stewart, of the 12th Lancers, being with his regiment in India. Among the other relatives and friends present were Lady Helen Stewart, Lady Isabel Stewart, Mr. and Lady Mary Cooke, Mr. and Lady Jane Spedding, Lady Emily Chichester, and Mr. Algernon and Lady Henrietta Turner; the Marquis of Salisbury, the Hon. W. F. Tollemache, M.P., and Mrs. Tollemache, Mr. Lionel Tollemache, the Earl of Feversham, the Hon. Alister Hay, Mr. Raglan Somerset, Mr. Almeric FitzRoy, Mr. George Codrington, the Hon. A. G. C. Calthorpe, Mr. Finch, M.P., the Hon. Henry Ryder, Sir Walter Farquhar, Mr. Walter Farquhar, Mr. Henry Farquhar, Mr. Heron Maxwell, Lord Alfred Churchill, the Rev. E. H. Walters, Mr. G. W. E. Russell, M.P., the Hon. Arthur Walsh, &c., &c. Amongst those who sent wreaths and crosses—in addition to most of the above-named—may be mentioned the Countess of Winchelsea and Nottingham, whose magnificent cross nearly covered the coffin; the Duchess of Marlborough, the Earl and Countess of Effingham, Lady Louisa Finch, Lady Alfred Churchill, the Hon. C. and K. Somerset, Mr. Loder, Mr. R. and Mrs. Loder, Julia Marchioness of Tweeddale, Lady Caroline Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Halford, the Girls' Friendly Society, the servants of the household, and the clergy and parishioners of the parish of St. John's, Clerkenwell, in which the deceased lady had laboured for many years among the poor. The body was subsequently conveyed to Kensal-green and buried in the family vault.

The distinguished social position which the Countess of Galloway filled for so long a period justifies us in regarding her loss as something more than a private one. Intimately acquainted with all the leading public men, both of this and of the last generation, Lady Galloway enjoyed a political experience rarely equalled. Her interest in public affairs, always keen, remained unabated to the end. Lady Galloway's mental abilities were of no common order. To great natural acuteness and vigour of intellect she united a sound and sober judgment, and an extraordinarily accurate insight into the real bearings of the various questions of the day. Her unflinching attachment and unswerving loyalty to Christian and Tory principles, without thought of time-serving or of compromise, indicated a thoroughness too rarely to be met with at the present day—a thoroughness based upon clear and definite convictions and a firm grasp of the great religious truths which underlie all right principles of government in both Church and State.

It is not permissible to draw aside the veil which conceals a private life of singular grace and beauty, consistently pervaded throughout with deep religious earnestness and unaffected piety. But the congregation which assembled yesterday to pay a last tribute of affection and respect to Lady Galloway's memory bore eloquent testimony to the feeling of widespread regret which her loss has occasioned, composed as it was not only of those who were her equals in social standing, but also of many of a humbler rank, who had in her lost a kind and trusted friend and wise counsellor.

None who have had the great privilege of the Countess of Galloway's acquaintance can ever forget her noble and dignified mien, her strong and vigorous character, the attractive courtliness of her manner, the simple sincerity and never-failing constancy of her friendship. Other memories there are of which we may not attempt to speak in detail. They are stored up in the hearts of those who knew Lady Galloway in the inner circle of her family, and in the home upon which she shed the influence of a bright example. Of few indeed can the words of King Lemuel be so aptly spoken, "Her children arise up, and call her blessed."

Reviews.

THE REVISED VERSION.*

[FIRST NOTICE.]

If the Revised Version were still an open question, the weight of argument would, in our judgment, be decidedly adverse to the experiment. The Authorised Version has been read in our churches for more than two centuries, and is the most precious possession of the English-speaking races over all the world. The unhappy divisions of Protestants have not impaired the blessed unity of the English Bible. All sects on both sides the Atlantic vie with the Church in attachment to this one bond of Christian unity; all are content to submit their differences to its supreme arbitrament. From the literary point of view it is the backbone of the English language and the admiration of civilised mankind. Shakespeare and the Bible are the only books of their age which are still read by all classes with all the freedom and enjoyment of originals. To revise such a work is a most perilous experiment. If the consequent changes are important, they may shake the national religion to its foundation: if they are not important, they affront the most precious associations of the people for the gratification of a few Greek and Hebrew scholars who are more at issue with each other than with the Authorised Version.

The case is in all points the reverse of that which justified the translation of 1611. Then there were five or six versions in circulation, none of which possessed or deserved the national confidence. Executed by individuals in rapid succession in the throes of a great religious revolution, they were all more or less tainted with disaffection to the existing constitution in Church and State. The Geneva Bible, which for some time continued to struggle with the Authorised Version, was the mainstay of Presbyterian and Puritan disloyalty, and largely responsible for the Great Rebellion. The mischief began with the first translation from the original, the groundwork of all that followed. Tyndale, with all his learning and piety, was a devoted follower of Luther, one who outwent his master in dislike to the doctrines and discipline of Catholic episcopacy. To avoid the historical associations, he translated the "ecclesiastical words" into vernacular equivalents, changing "grace" into "favour," "charity" into "love," "confessing" into "acknowledging," "salvation" into "health," "church" into "congregation," and "priests" into "seniors" or "elders." The last was a peculiar piece of sectarian audacity, for "priest" is only the English form of the original Greek. It is not a translation, but, in common with "Bishop" and "deacon," the actual names of Scripture which passed without breach of continuity into the historical Church, and were domiciled in all the European vernaculars long before any translations of the Scripture were made. Wiclif, who translated from the Vulgate, having only one English word for *sacerdos* and *presbyter*, had no scruple in translating both by "prest" and *pontifex*, the high priest, by "bischoppe." In this he followed the usage of Scripture itself, which habitually gives its own names to the analogous offices, civil and religious, of other nations. Tyndale, favouring the non-episcopal discipline of the foreign Protestants, confused the Christian term "priest" to Jewish and heathen ministers, and translated it into "elder" in the New Testament. At the same time he followed Luther in leaving "bischop" untranslated in the pastoral epistles—where it is one of the epithets of the presbyter—though "deacon" which Luther left unchanged, was converted into "minister." The result was to bring the English Bible into contradiction with the English Prayer-Book, which affirms it to be "evident unto all men diligently reading the Holy Scripture and ancient authors, that from the Apostles' time there have been these orders in Christ's Church—bishops, priests, and deacons." One of the instructions to King James's translators was to restore the old "ecclesiastical words," but this was effectually prevented in regard to the "priest" by the anti-sacerdotal prejudice instilled by the earlier translators and their Puritan admirers. It had taken such deep root in the current language, that even in the Canons of 1603 the order which the Prayer-Book calls priests is distinguished from deacons by the term "ministers," which is really the English of the other. To rectify this injurious deprecation of the scriptural nomenclature might be a sound argument for a Revised Version, but nothing less is thought of in the present enterprise. It would alienate the Dissenters, whose concurrence is indispensable, and anything like general acceptance. This should have been a warning against the revision. The expedient of associating Nonconformists in the work itself could only result in making them the masters of the situation. The Church was put in the position of Mr. Gladstone's Government to the Russian Emperor. "Peace at any price" became indispensable from the moment that persons representing Nonconformity more than scholarship gained the power of wrecking the design by withdrawing their concurrence. Accordingly the gains of Nonconformity prove to be not inconsiderable in the New Testament Revision. Not only are priests still transferred to other religions, while elders usurp their place in the Christian Church, but the Revisers—as Mr. Wayland Joyce showed in our last issue—have discovered a new Order of Elder Brethren, hitherto only known at the Trinity House. Nor is this enough. In support of the pretended identity of bishops and presbyters in the New Testament the same word is translated "office" when used of an

apostle, and "office of a bishop" when used of a presbyter! A Nonconformist reviser is thus enabled to boast of the final decision of the best scholarship of the age, that the Apostles were not bishops, and that Presbyterian and Dissenting ministers *are*. Nothing more was wanted but to get rid of Ordination. Hence the word "ordain" is exchanged for "appoint" whenever it relates to the ministerial office; and instead of "no man taketh this honour unto himself but he that is called of God, as was Aaron," we are told to read, "but when he is called" insinuating the Dissenting view in preference to the Episcopal. When so much is done for Nonconformity it would be hard on the Socinians not to get a turn. Accordingly the opening verses of the Epistle to the Hebrews are not only stripped of their majestic rhythm, but against the true rendering "His Son," a gloss is set in the margin, "Gr., a Son," as if one of many? Now this is literally and grammatically false; the indefinite article is not in the Greek. The noun is anathron; and every scholar knows the Greek idiom. Even in our own language children speak of their parents as "father" and "mother," the "my" being implied. A Yorkshire farmer in like manner says "son" or "daughter" when speaking of his own child, but never of anyone's else. Consequently "his Son" (without any italics) is the only true translation of the genitive case in this place.

After these and many such mournful failures in the portion of the Revised Version first published, we expected little from the Old Testament which has now appeared. We hasten to express the surprise and gratification with which the first view has filled our mind. In the main point at least it is as nearly as possible the reverse of its conceited companion. We have read the first four chapters of Genesis straight through, and instead of finding ourselves on an American corduroy road, as we invariably feel before we have got through half a dozen verses of the New Testament, we were only now and then sensible of a jerk, and that far from alarming. This is worth far more than all the rest of the results of revision, be they what they may. It encourages us to hope the best in continuing the perusal.

At present we must confine ourselves to the Preface. But first we should like to ask, What has become of the Translators' Preface of 1611? It used to be found in the ordinary copies of the Bible, but it is wanting in this Revised Version and in the *Speaker's Commentary*; and, being desirously of verifying a reminiscence, we searched all the Bibles in the house and the great folio in the parish church without finding it; while everyone retains the fulsome address to King James. Surely this is a great mistake. To come to the Preface before us. It has none of the trumpet-blowing of the other Company. It begins with quoting from the General Principles laid down by the Committee of Convocation two which have been most conspicuously violated in the New Testament Revision. These were "to introduce as few alterations as possible," and "to limit such alterations, as far as possible, to the language of the Authorised and earlier English Versions." To the first the Old Testament Company profess to have willingly conformed, departing from it only when they disagreed with the Translators of 1611, or where it was necessary to render parallel passages by the same English words, or where the Authorised Version was too archaic or obscure, or where an earlier Version or a slight change would bring out the meaning more accurately.

In the application of these rules the sacred name "JEHOVAH" has been inserted only in a few places; adhering in general to the Authorised Version use of "THE LORD." "Tabernacle of the congregation" has been changed to "Tabernacle of meeting," which is certainly an improvement, and "meat offering" to "meal offering." We are not so sure of *Sheol* as an occasional rendering of "hell," a word which ought not to be left to the Creeds; and thoroughly approving the rejection of the American proposal to modernise the language throughout, we cannot but regret the reluctant surrender of the good old verb "to ear." It is the root of "earth"—that which is "eared"—and though the Revisers say they found the meaning "unknown to many persons of good intelligence and education," we have ascertained that it is quite understood in a Yorkshire village school. We cannot say the same of "bolled," which the Revisers retain; but then flax is not cultivated in the neighbourhood, and the land is eared. Her Majesty's School Inspectors may be presumed to be persons of good intelligence and education; but we have known one as ignorant as a baby of what a duck's "neb" is; yet the good man would make a fair guess at the derivation of Holderness, and had probably weathered the *Nab* in an excursion to Norway.

The possessive "its" is an acquisition of the right kind, and the resolution to disuse the italics of the Authorised Version, where the words are necessarily implied in the original, is an important gain. The rules for the marginal notes are also very sensible; but we must reserve further remarks till we have spent more time on the work. The copy before us is in one volume, *minion octavo*. And we cannot but think the page much too crowded when printed in the paragraph form, often without a break in either of the two columns of small type. On the other hand, the *pica demy octavo*, in five volumes, is a noble production, reflecting honour even on the University Presses.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN ITS SHIRT-SLEEVES.*

Lord Rosebery certainly conferred a benefit on the general reader when he persuaded Mr. Lucy to gather together into a volume the records of

* *The Holy Bible, containing the Old and New Testaments: translated out of the Original Tongues. Being the Version set forth A.D. 1611 Compared with the most Ancient Authorities and Revised. Printed for the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.—Cambridge: At the University Press, 1885.*

* *A Diary of Two Parliaments.* By Henry W. Lucy.—London: Cassell and Co., 1885.

his Parliamentary experiences, which he had contributed to the *Daily News*, the *World*, and the *Observer*. If rumour speaks true, there is yet another and still better known periodical to which Mr. Lucy is in the habit of supplying graphic and humorous essence of Parliament, and it is under the guise of Toby, M.P., that he is at present best known to the reader. However this may be, there can be no doubt that his diary of passing impressions jotted down from night to night and intended to reproduce the gossip of history rather than history itself is very amusing, and supplies just that personal element of interest which at the present day is so much sought after. The volume before us, which treats of the Disraeli Parliament that sat from 1874 to 1880, is to be followed shortly by a second volume treating of the Gladstone Parliament, which commenced sitting in 1880, and unfortunately continues to do so. These volumes are to form a connected whole, to which the title of the present work points, *A Diary of Two Parliaments*, and it will form a storehouse of amusing gossip for the historian of the period which it covers. Mr. Lucy has a keen sense of the humorous, and his glance is generally attracted by the more ludicrous aspects of the scene which he describes; but, as a rule, his descriptions are good-humoured, and, though his sense of fun spares neither the one side nor the other, and distributes his chaff on the whole impartially, his sympathies are, we should gather, with the Liberal rather than with the Conservative party. But he does not display any violent political bias, and treats both sides of the House impartially as themes of mirth. Moreover, as a rule his mirth is thoroughly good-natured, though not always quite fair, as, for example, in the case of Lord John Manners. But an exception to the general tone of good nature must be made in reference to the late Mr. Ward Hunt, of whom he speaks with considerable bitterness, for which it is difficult to find an adequate reason. The nearest approach to a reason is to be discovered in the passage which speaks of the model county member—so Mr. Gladstone once described him—as reserving “his bitterest animosity and his most snarling contempt for the Press.” This Mr. Lucy may perhaps regard as justifying the oft-repeated expression of his own bitter animosity and snarling contempt for the Conservative First Lord. Those who had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with him will certainly fail to recognise their old friend under the dark colours of Mr. Lucy's portrait. But putting aside Mr. Ward Hunt, there is no one of whom the writer speaks maliciously, though his pictures are by no means always favourable. As his object is not to paint the higher life, but the everyday aspect of the House of Commons, it is not always the most important member of the House who occupies the most prominent position in his pages. Indeed, the most amusing part of the book deals not so much with the leaders of the House as with the more eccentric of the minor members. His true heroes are the Major and the Admiral, the former being the redoubtable O'Gorman, and the latter Sir James Elphinstone; and he makes considerable fun out of both. Of many pictures of the Major we will quote that under the heading of Ash Wednesday, 1878:—

One figure there was present from the earliest moment. Seated in the modest obscurity of the far corner Opposition benches, with hat tilted over his thoughtful brow, sat the Major. For some weeks his presence had been lacking to the House of Commons. Urgent duties, not altogether unconnected with the Board of Guardians, have called him home. But he always answers to the trumpet-call of duty, and when the day arrives for moving the second reading of the Municipal Franchise (Ireland) Bill he is sure that he is in his place in the hated House of Commons. Owing to the prevalence of religious fervour on the part of members, the circumstances under which the Major presently rose to deliver his speech were most depressing. As soon as a House was made, members returned to the Committee-rooms, and it was in the presence of less than a score of men that the Major commenced his oration. Some would have taken a base advantage of their opponent, and would have silently moved the resolution, leaving the adversary to speak to empty benches, whilst they reserved their speech for a later period of the afternoon, when the House would be full. But, partly owing to the chivalry of his nature, and principally to the fact that he had carefully prepared his speech, and would only be bothered by the necessity of answering arguments that might be delivered in the course of a debate, the Major plunged straightway into his oration, and got along very well till he directly touched the subject of woman.

Since the earliest chapter of the world's history woman has fatally influenced mankind, and she got the Major into sad trouble this afternoon. He began moderately enough, by bantering the Attorney-General for Ireland upon the prospect of a certain lecture. As the joke grew upon him the vast form of the Major heaved with a volcanic chuckle, his left eyelid drooped, and if he had been within arm's length of Gibbon there is no doubt he would have playfully poked him in the ribs. The prospects of woman in her marital relations naturally led the Major to regard woman as a class, and he diverged into a vindication of the virtue and beauty of the Irish women generally. By steps, easy enough to a mind like his, but altogether bewildering to the House, this led him up to the Emperor of Russia. What the Czar had to do with the Municipal Franchise (Ireland) Bill, or what it had to do with him, is not clear at the first glance. But to the Major it served as a basis of a burst of eloquence, thunderous in its passion, beautiful in its language, and well calculated to bring up the Speaker with a mild but effective rebuke.

“Are we,” he inquired, in a loud voice, “living under a Constitutional Government, or are we not?” “One would think,” he added, “we were living under the knout—under the sceptre of the perfidious barbarian of the North, the latest filibuster.”

The Major has a strong contempt for an assembly that will not permit him to denounce the Czar in connection with a proposal to assimilate the municipal franchise of England and Ireland. But he had evidently made up his mind to control himself. His ferocious valour at the sound of the Speaker's voice, and having mopped his forehead with his handkerchief and found his spectacles (which in the excitement of the moment had got on the top of his head) he, through the remainder of his magnificent address to the House, roared them as gently as a sucking dove.

More elaborate than this picture is the portrait drawn of another politician, who would probably feel himself insulted by being placed on the same political level with the Major:—

Grant-Duff, who rarely comes to the House now, looked in to-night. He is, I always fancy, the most aggressively intellectual-looking man of the present generation. It is not for nothing that his birthplace should chance to be named Eden. But it should have been Eden before the Fall, and that it is unhappily otherwise is indicated by the postal direction, which instantly brings us down from the clouds by adding to the address the words “near Banff.” That is the one flaw in Grant-Duff's self-serenity, the drop that embitters the wine of his life. Eden would have been bearable; but “near Banff”!

Taking Banff as standing for mankind and mundane affairs generally, we may put it that Banff is the bane of Duff's existence. He could get along very well if his soul were not daily vexed by the general density of the minds with which he comes into contact, and with the particular incompetence of our public men. He has struggled long and nobly to regenerate the world in which he finds his mind engulfed and tarnished, as a meteor, falling from a starry sky, is suddenly dulled and extinguished amid the clay of a ploughed field. He mingled freely with contemporary youth in the academic grove, what time stern manhood was engaged upon the architectural undertaking since so grandly accomplished. He did not disdain to wear such honours as our poor Universities have at their disposal. He wrote a book in which “European Politics” were not only “studied,” but were directed. Later he took a “Political Survey,” in which everything was settled for the present generation, and the expense of town houses and other charges incidental to attendance upon the supererogatory meetings of a superfluous Parliament might have been spared, not only to the House of Commons, but to the House of Lords and to the other distinguished assembly known as Convocation. He has been Lord Rector of the University of Aberdeen, and has descended to the care of the pettier interests of the people of India.

From distant Elgin he has at stated intervals instructed the world on current events, and the world has turned a deaf ear to a voice attuned for finer tympanons than the waves of sound are wont to strike against in the gross atmosphere of Banff. He has no joy in life outside himself, and walks in lonely misery amidst the strange people who exist around him.

It is, in truth, a sad thing when a superior being thus gets astray in a lower planet, like a mental Gulliver cast adrift on Lilliput. The inhabitants are many in number, and hopelessly blind him with the tiny threads of their ignorance, their prejudice, and their folly.

It is not often, however, that Mr. Lucy indulges in so elaborate an effort of portrait-painting, and he generally contents himself with that record of passing incidents beneath the dignity of the ordinary Parliamentary reporter which adds so much to the reader's enjoyment—such incidents as that of Mr. Giles' maiden-speech and that of Sir Hardinge Giffard taking his seat, which is described in an irresistibly comic style.

There are also scattered through the present volume, in addition to the political portraiture, many happy epigrams, as that in which Mr. Lucy points out that “it is not the least curious and significant thing about an Indian debate that ‘gentlemen, having got through their own speeches, are not under any circumstances to be induced to wait and hear others,’ and his comparison of Mr. Lowe and Sir William Harcourt to “a rough nugget of gold and a specimen of Brummagem bijouterie, ornate in workmanship and brilliant with bits of coloured glass,” and the description of “Mr. Monk as a Bishop or Dean gone astray.” Still better is the description of Mr. Gladstone's “emotional, not to say nitro-glycerine, temperament,” and of his retirement from the Liberal leadership as “much ‘such another withdrawal from the conduct of affairs as the captain of a ship effects when he turns in for the night. The first mate is left in charge of the ship, but on the slightest emergency ‘the captain is to be called.’ There are also some admirable stories of individual members, among the most amusing of which are those of which Jim Lowther is the hero. His reply to one of his constituents, who wished to examine him about Ireland, when he came down to be re-elected for York on accepting office as Chief Secretary, is inimitable: “Sir, I have a great objection to talking shop.” So also is his excuse for quitting the House when a noisy Irish member was shouting at the top of his voice: “I am going ‘on to the terrace to hear Synan.’”

At the present time a special interest attaches to Mr. Lucy's narrative of the debate on the Vote of Credit proposed by Lord Beaconsfield's Government to which the present Prime Minister made so unfortunate an allusion. Certainly the contrast between a Liberal Opposition and a Conservative Opposition could not have been more strongly brought out than by a comparison between the debate on that occasion and the unanimous vote of the other day. The ironical terms in which the present Prime Minister then spoke of “the great effort made to enter into a mood of heroism, ending in a resolution to add six millions to the ‘National Debt,’ might not unflatteringly have been retorted upon him when he proposed to add eleven millions. The question which he then asked, amid the cheers of his supporters, “Can not ‘you express confidence in the Government without charging the people?’ has an ironical significance when we read it in the light of the present day, as has also the résumé of his financial speech on the Budget for 1879.

There is another contrast between 1878 and 1885 which we may also quote, and it loses none of its effect from the tribute which it pays to our lost leader being mixed with some lighter touches of sarcasm, which serve to show that it is offered by one who is not by any means an unqualified admirer:—

It was charming to see how Lord Beaconsfield, back from Berlin, bringing ‘Peace with Honour,’ entered just now, as if nothing particular were the matter, and as if the last thing in the world he expected was to find the House of Lords crowded from the floor to the roof of the canopy over the Throne. In the same unpretentious and unexpected manner he had, a few minutes earlier, quitted the dull-looking house at the bottom of Downing-street. Whilst the thoughts of all the world were centred at Westminster, and whilst some thousands of hero-wor-

shippers were thronging the gates of Palace-yard, the hero of the day was quietly walking down Parliament-street bent upon recommending his Parliamentary duties interrupted by a trip to Berlin. He had not even done the day the honour of specially dressing for it. When Gladstone is about to make a great speech in the House of Commons, somebody—surely not himself—brushes him up, “tidies” him, and puts a flower in a buttonhole of his coat. Beaconsfield did not do all his dressing in the far-off days when he wore ringlets and twirled a gold-headed cane, dexterously attached to his wrist by a silken tassel. Even now strangers may occasionally meet in the neighbourhood of Parliament-street a notable figure making its way through the throng. They note how frail and weary the body seems, how bent the shoulders, how sunken the cheeks, how leaden-hued the lineaments. But they also note the dauntless spirit which still affects a jaunty carriage, and makes believe that progress is slowly made only because there is no hurry. They further observe with admiration the careful neatness of the accessories of the figure—the shapely coat of the lightest material, the negligent but elegant neckcloth, the pearl-grey gloves glistened with wrinkle, and the glossy hat.

These things are, however, only for commonplace occasions. To-day, which marks a crowning stage in a memorable career, let us put on the old coat, the second-best hat, and the dingy-brown trousers of long ago. Let us, also, walk down Parliament-street instead of driving in a coach-and-four, and let us take by surprise the crowd which has its back turned to us, and is eagerly scanning the interior of the stately equipages which drive into the Yard in quick succession.

A crowd in Palace-yard! A surging multitude by the railings! Beaconsfield was never more surprised in his life. What could be the matter? Had someone in authority been pulling up park railings, and was this oration intended for the champions of the popular right? Had Gladstone been reducing some taxes, or freeing the Church, or emancipating the land, and was this the grateful throng come to sing psalms in his honour? Beaconsfield could not imagine; but he walked slowly on unnoticed, and crossing on the right-hand side, as if he were making for the quietness and peace of the cloisters of Westminster Abbey, he turned sharply off to the left when he neared the gates of Old Palace-yard. Then with a sudden rush and a ringing cheer the surprised crowd closed round him, and threatened to carry him off his feet.

And so they bore him into the Houses of Parliament, whither his colleagues of the Commons had already arrived, breathless after the rush across the lobby. Here another surprise awaited him. Instead of the empty benches over which the sound of Big Ben chiming five o'clock usually booms, here was the chamber thronged in every part. At the far end, piled head over head, were the strangers in the gallery, and on either side, packed equally close, were many familiar faces, often turned upon him in “another place.” This he saw, entering from behind the Throne, and while making his way through a multitude of Privy Counsellors in whom there was the wisdom to be early in their places in the space before the Throne. Except one kept vacant for him, a hurried glance round the benches showed not a single empty seat, whilst from the galleries that ran round the chamber bright eyes looked down and rained influence upon a Premier who is not only a politician but a courtier.

It is a summer day, and all the hues of a flower garden are blended in the soft lights of the rainbow which the beauty and rank of the Empire form, and through which, after the storm of the Congress, the sun shines down on the Prime Minister. Royalty is not lacking to the statefulness of the historic scene. If the Premier were to look up he would see in the gallery straight before him the Princess of Wales, fairest among the fair. But he does not look up. He has got over the surprise that awaited him outside, and is satisfied with the glance around which he took when first seating himself on the Ministerial bench. Thereafter he relaxed into his familiar manner, with arms crossed and head held down, the observed of all observers, himself observing none.

A profound silence, broken only by the rustling of fans in the gallery, fell upon the assembly. The Premier had fortunately timed his entry so that all the private business was disposed of, and no consideration of such topics as Vivisection or the Scotch Roads and Bridges Bill lowered the dignity of the occasion. There was nothing to do but to listen to the eagerly anticipated statement. At this moment an unseen hand flung back one of the painted windows near the roof, and a great beam of white light flashed across the solemn gloom of the chamber, bringing into sudden brilliancy the white lawn of the Bishops, and falling upon the rainbow hues of the group at the lower end of the gallery, just below the Princess of Wales. Salisbury entered, and was greeted with cheers from his friends. As if Beaconsfield were only waiting for the arrival of his companion in the journey to Berlin, he now rose, and, advancing to the table, was received with renewed cheers.

The hero of this memorable scene is, without question, the hero of the whole volume. We regret, indeed, as we have before said, that we are unable to claim Mr. Lucy as a staunch and unqualified admirer of Lord Beaconsfield. But the tributes of praise which he from time to time renders to the great Conservative chief are all the more valuable from the consideration that they are extorted, so to speak, from an unwilling witness. The “sublime sort of tact” which he showed during the first session of the Disraeli Parliament, “his happy adroitness in managing the House in ‘little things,’ and ‘his personal ascendancy,’ are graphically described, and Mr. Lucy does not hesitate to avow his conviction ‘that the removal of Disraeli to the House of Lords has ‘let down the House of Commons by several ‘distinct stages.’ It remains for him in his second volume, which is, we hear, already far advanced, to tell the story of the House of Commons, now let down to a much lower stage, which has found its leader in Mr. Gladstone.

STORIES OF THE SUPERNATURAL.*

Dr. Lee is too well known as a diligent collector and effective narrator of stories of the Supernatural for it to be necessary to assure those who delight in literature of this kind that his new venture will not disappoint their keenest anticipations. The blood-curdling and gruesome tales which Dr. Lee has here brought together are quite equal in interest to anything he has published before; and higher praise than this—from the point of view of the particular class of readers we have in mind—it would perhaps be impossible to bestow.

There is one matter which it is perhaps as well to explain for the benefit of any who may be unacquainted with Dr. Lee's former works on

* *Glimpses in the Twilight, being various Notes, Records, and Examples of the Supernatural.* By the Rev. Frederick George Lee, D.D.—London: W. Blackwood and Sons, 1885.

the same subject. It would be quite a mistake to imagine that the aim of the present volume is the not very lofty one which inspired the celebrated revelations of the Fat Boy—“I want to make yer ‘flesh creep.’” Dr. Lee's motive is really of a most serious kind. A determined opponent of the bald Materialism of the present day, he confronts the modern repudiation of the Supernatural and the Miraculous with a record of more or less well-authenticated facts and events which, if they are true, are wholly destructive of the Materialistic creed. It would be outside our purpose to discuss in detail the credibility of the numerous marvels here narrated. The weight of evidence in their favour necessarily varies in different instances. But we are bound to acknowledge that the author sets forth in each case, with the most scrupulous honesty and fairness, the source from which his information is derived, so that every reader is placed in a position to judge for himself; and we see no justification whatever for the gratuitous sneers that have, in certain quarters, been directed against his “gross credulity” and “inability to ‘weigh evidence.’”

Our modern Materialists display, in fact, an amount of nervous irritability with respect to narratives of the Supernatural that looks very much as if it were begotten of a dread of anything that threatens to upset their pet dogmas. If, as we are often assured, the true scientific temper declines to ignore any facts duly established by evidence, and that it abhors high *a priori* methods of reasoning, what could be more unscientific than the attitude adopted by our Materialists towards phenomena which rest in many cases on absolutely unimpeachable testimony? As Dr. Lee justifiably observes (p. 8), “Whenever your ‘Rationalist meets with a circumstance which he ‘cannot explain, he immediately and coolly ‘denounces it as ‘imaginary.’”

So far from implicitly accepting all that Dr. Lee relates as authentic, we may say that as regards a large proportion of these stories we should be exigent of stronger proofs than he seems disposed to require. That, however, is purely a question of opinion. At any rate, we do not see how, at this time of day, any candid man—and by a candid man we mean one who is willing to judge the issue simply on the merits of the evidence—can refuse to admit the possibility of so-called “Supernatural” occurrences. The only way of escaping from this conclusion is by flatly denying their possibility on purely *a priori* grounds; that is to say, by declaring that no amount of evidence in their favour, however weighty or cogent in itself, can outweigh their original improbability. It is sufficient to observe that such an intellectual attitude as this is one which men of sense can safely venture to disregard.

We have one or two complaints to make of the volume before us. Several of the subjects discussed by Dr. Lee have little to do with the matter in hand. In particular, his observations on the scientific theory of Evolution are entirely irrelevant; and not only irrelevant, but shallow and unfair as well. For ourselves, we hold that there are very good and sufficient scientific reasons for refusing to assent to that doctrine; but to allege that it is intrinsically anti-Christian or Materialistic is, to say the least, to utter a very hasty and thoughtless expression of opinion. At the same time, we fully allow that, inasmuch as Darwin was an openly avowed unbeliever, his burial in Westminster Abbey was a monstrous scandal and an outrage on the Christian religion. Again, we think Dr. Lee's seemingly implied censure of the Society for Psychical Research is not in the least deserved. He classes it (p. 13) with the Theosophical Society, though it is really a perfectly neutral organisation, the object of which is to collect and sift evidence. Both it and a kindred association at Oxford, the Phasmatological Society, have done excellent and valuable service in this direction. And next we must express some surprise that our author does not appear to have heard of the tremendous exposure that has recently taken place of the magical pretensions of a certain notorious woman of Russian nationality. His allusions to this person (pp. 343, 345) include no hint of any such revelation having been made. Finally—to conclude our grumbling—the present volume deserves a better index. We see no utility in a vague heading such as “Theories” while to omit all mention of the haunted house in Berkeley-square under “Haunted Houses,” to style Sir Henry Spelman “Mr. Spelman,” and to call the Theosophical Society the “Theological” Society, is simply to exhibit inexcusable carelessness.

For those who read between the lines a special interest attaches to two of the narratives in this volume. It is probably not difficult to guess who the “archæologist” was whose eldest son saw the Singing Gallery Ghost in an old church in Oxfordshire (p. 62), or to make out the identity of the clergyman cured by a relic of St. Thomas of Canterbury (p. 624).

Dr. Lee tells afresh the remarkable and well-established story of the apparition of Lord Tyrone to Lady Beresford. We do not observe that he has made any special addition to or modification of the version which he gave in a former work (*The Other World*, vol. ii., p. 11). The story mentioned on p. 114 of a gentleman being warned in a dream that his friend was being buried alive is not dissimilar in its main features to one vouched for, we believe, by a member of our English Royal family, of an occurrence at Naples, where a lady three times heard in her sleep the voice of a friend appealing to her for help. It was afterwards discovered that the person whose voice had been heard had been buried alive.

The intensely touching story of the apparition of the dead midshipman to his father (p. 224) reminds us of one which rests on the authority of

a distinguished member of the Scottish Episcopate. It is as follows:—The captain of a vessel which had been disabled during a severe storm was convinced that his ship must shortly founder, and gave orders that all on board should betake themselves to the boats. The last boat to be lowered was placed under the command of a young midshipman, a great favourite of the captain. The boy begged the captain to enter the boat, but he refused, saying that his duty was to stick to his vessel to the end. He, however, requested the midshipman, if ever he reached home in safety, to deliver a parting letter to his wife, which the boy promised to do. The lad then entered the boat, which had not put off very far from the ship when, to the horror of the captain, she was capsized by a heavy sea, and all hands on board, including the midshipman, drowned. An hour or two later another vessel providentially hove in sight and rescued the captain, who ultimately reached England in safety. Upon his arrival home, he was greeted by his wife with joyous surprise. She told him that she had never expected to see him again alive, having received several weeks before his parting letter announcing the wreck of the ship. In reply to her husband's astonished inquiries she produced the identical letter he had delivered into the charge of the midshipman. It bore traces of having been completely sodden in sea-water, and it was delivered, she informed her husband, by a boy dressed as a midshipman, who was observed to be dripping with head to foot.

There seems to be still considerable doubt as to which is the celebrated haunted house in Berkeley-square. We may remark that it is not any of those here mentioned, though for obvious reasons we shall refrain from saying which it is. It is now, we believe, occupied; and the writer of this notice had the opportunity last summer of exploring the interior while it was undergoing alterations and repairs. As to the stories about with regard to the house, we must confess that not one of those told by Dr. Lee seems to us very probable, except the last, which is briefly given at the foot of p. 56. It is understood by the friends of a certain gentleman well known in London society, and holding a position in the Civil Service, that he once passed a night in the house in Berkeley-square, and that during that night his hair turned perfectly white from the horror caused by something which occurred on that occasion.

We turned to Dr. Lee's pages in the hope of finding that he was now able to complete or correct the information concerning Glamis Castle which he furnished in a former work (*The Other World*, vol. ii., p. 112). Much of what has been said and written on this subject is very misleading. Let us, therefore, explain that the celebrated mystery of the Secret Chamber of Glamis never had any connection with the supernatural phenomena observed at the Castle. It is now certain that the tradition concerning the hidden room and the terrible secret (always entrusted to only three persons at a time) goes back no farther than the beginning of this century. About two years ago, moreover, it was announced on the best authority possible that the cause of this particular trouble had come to an end. In fact, the whole mystery of the secret chamber terminated with the death, at an advanced age, of a certain member of the noble family to whom Glamis belongs, who had for many years lived in the strictest retirement. More than this it would not be right to say, and indeed the obvious inference from these facts need not be stated. It is sufficient to observe that it satisfactorily explains the various circumstances of the case, as they have from time to time become known.

As to the alleged haunting of Glamis, that is altogether another matter. The principal apparitions are stated to be those of the White Lady, who has often been seen in broad daylight, and of the tall grey-bearded Knight clad in a suit of armour. One of the most remarkable and best authenticated instances of this latter appearance was briefly narrated by Dr. Lee in *The Other World* (vol. ii., pp. 113-114), a story which we are in a position to confirm on the testimony of the lady to whom the incident occurred. This same grim spectre has sometimes preferred to appear with only its head and shoulders visible, and apparently floating in the air. The other phenomena to be witnessed at Glamis seem to rest upon overwhelming and unquestionable testimony. Sometimes there is a violent shaking of the whole house by a loud noise, the nature of which is variously described. One gentleman who heard it has, in our hearing, compared the sound to "the throwing of a grand piano from the top of the house to the bottom." Besides this there have been heard the most frightful yells and shrieks as of a multitude of unearthly creatures. These occur at midnight, and proceed apparently from one of the principal rooms of the Castle.

We had certainly expected that Dr. Lee would have had something to say, too, about the tolerably well-known and perfectly authentic story of the appearance of Bishop Wilberforce, at the exact moment of his death, in the verandah of the dining-room of Mr. John Evelyn's home at Wootton. The Bishop's figure was seen during dinner, looking in at the window, by several persons at once. Then there is the unspeakably awful story—of which we shall not give the particulars—of the apparition seen by Dr. Pusey at Oxford. Allusion was made to it in a leading article in the *Standard* some months ago. And there is yet another story so widely circulated and resting on such unimpeachable evidence that we are surprised that Dr. Lee should not have noticed it in his present volume. We have had it related to us by two persons, each of whom had heard it told on a separate occasion by the

gentleman to whom the incident happened—at present a distinguished Professor in one of our Universities; and a comparison of the two accounts has shown that they agree precisely in every particular.

The story is that this gentleman, with a friend, was on the look-out for a house in the country, fitted for a boys' school. Hearing of one situated several miles from Oxford as likely to suit them, they went to inspect it, and stayed there for the night. In the morning the gentleman was enthusiastic in his approval of the house, and proposed that they should accept the terms on which it was offered them. His friend, on the other hand, without assigning any reason, declared his repugnance to the house, and announced his unalterable intention to have nothing further to do with it. His conduct seemed so unreasonable that the first-named gentleman determined to take the house on his own responsibility. He did so, and immediately started a school for boys. At the back of the house was a large apartment, reached only by a long corridor, which was used as a schoolroom. It was soon found that the boys had taken a strong and rooted dislike to this room, and on being asked the reason, several of them said that they "always felt as if there was somebody else in that room besides themselves." In deference to their reiterated complaints, the master allotted another room for their use, and the old schoolroom was turned into a lumber-room for boxes. Late one night the schoolmaster had occasion to consult some large music-books which, he recollected, had been stowed away in a box in this room. Going down with a candle and matches, he found the books he wanted, when his candle was suddenly blown out. He relighted it, however, and was carrying the heavy pile of books out into the corridor when, several feet in front of him, he perceived standing in the corridor a figure, half turned from him, clad in a long dark dress, and wearing a hood which shrouded the face from view. There was no help for it: he must needs pass the figure to regain the staircase. He accordingly walked past it, but, as he did so, could not resist the impulse to look up at its face. The sight that met his gaze was horrible beyond description. The next moment the whole household was aroused by a loud crash. It was found that the schoolmaster, with his heap of large books, had fallen heavily on the floor in a dead swoon. On his recovery he determined to leave the house at once, and he subsequently learned that his friend had, on the night which he spent at the house, seen the same figure.

Want of space forbids us to extend our remarks on this subject much farther. We should have liked to give several details of very curious stories about haunted houses. A brief summary of one of them must suffice. The case is that of an ancient house in a village four miles from Oxford, where the most extraordinary apparitions are stated to have been seen in, we believe, 1882, by several persons, including a scholar of Pembroke College, who visited the place with the special object of investigating these phenomena, and who subsequently made a report to the Phasmatological Society of what he had witnessed. On the staircase—each time at the same spot—a lady was twice seen, dressed in a white dress and wearing a blue sash. Her hair was long and golden, and she carried a rosary. Several chambers of a revolver were fired at this figure at close quarters; but it remained quite unmoved. Other phenomena were the appearance of a number of blue lights moving about one of the rooms. These concocted and formed a single pale flame, which remained visible in one corner of the chamber at a distance of several inches from the floor. When it had disappeared, sounds were audible as of a man and woman quarrelling; then the noise as of a struggle, and then a heavy fall. This story was, we may add, vouched for by people of the highest integrity and trustworthiness.

In conclusion, we have only to thank Dr. Lee for an exceedingly readable, interesting, and instructive volume.

NEW NOVELS.

*Anthony Fairfax** has no author's name upon the title-page, and must, therefore, be presumed to be the work of a new writer. If this be so, it is certainly a work of great promise and of no little performance, standing out with a marked individuality from among the ordinary novels of the day. The hero is introduced to us under very unfavourable circumstances, as he emerges from the county gaol at Middleton after serving a year's imprisonment with hard labour. Of course, experienced readers know at once that he has been unjustly convicted; but, equally of course, the world at large does not take the same view, and he has to live his life under the blighting shadow of his prison experiences. When he first comes out he is hospitably received by the brother of a fellow-prisoner discharged at the same time; and there is a touching description of the true charity and genuine kindness which Joe and Lizzie Dixon show to their involuntary guest. In the midst of his troubles he finds that a property has been left to him on condition of his changing his name—a condition with which he is only too willing to comply. But when he comes down to Cheynehurst to take possession he is unable to shake off the shadow of the past, and lives in perpetual fear of that shadow being revealed to his neighbours. Among these neighbours is the vicar of Cheynehurst and his daughter, a most charming young lady, Miss Beatrice Clare, with whom he not unreasonably falls in love. But he struggles against his passion, being unwilling

* *Anthony Fairfax*.—London: Richard Bentley and Son, 1885.

to drag her down to his level, and, finding another young lady in the parish friendless and prospectless, he deems it more fitting to engage himself to the latter, though she is by no means very cordial in her acceptance of him. Unfortunately, lady number two has another admirer, a Mr. Martiu, who by no means approves of being cut out by Mr. Anthony Fairfax, and, still more unfortunately, Joe Dixon, who has been brought down to Cheynehurst by Anthony to show his gratitude, in a fit of intoxication reveals the antecedents of his patron to his patron's rival. Mr. Martin writes an anonymous letter to his lady-love communicating her discovery, and Helen Carlyon, after taking counsel with Miss Clare—who considers that the information only gives to a true lover the more reason for a faithful adherence to her love—declines to follow Joe's advice, and throws over poor Anthony. The secret soon spreads wider, and there is a graphic sketch of the hero's reception in the county town when it is known that he has had a year's hard labour. But seeming misfortunes often result in real advantages, and Anthony's rejection by Miss Carlyon simply paves the way for his acceptance by Miss Clare, a far more attractive and agreeable wife. It only remains for him to remove the stigma which rests upon him, and this is done by the intervention of Joe Dixon, who, full of horror at having revealed the secret, determines to atone for his indiscretion by finding out the truth which would render the revelation innocuous. The same demon of drink which led him to make the revelation enables him to make the amends; for, by a stroke of good fortune, he surprises in his cups the confederate of the man who has ruined Anthony Fairfax's life, and trumped up the false charge on which he was imprisoned. So all ends happily, and poor Anthony is consoled for the troubles of his past life by marrying Miss Beatrice Clare, with every prospect of living happily ever after. The story of which we have given this outline is artistically worked out, and the various characters—especially Joe Dixon—are well marked, so that we shall look forward with no little expectation to another novel by the same pen.

*A Morganatic Marriage** is a very unpleasant book, of which the unpleasantness is by no means redeemed by any literary skill shown either in the construction of the plot or in the development of the various puppets who work it out. As might be inferred from the title, the story turns on the marriage of a Royal personage with his inferior in social rank, which for State reasons is treated as no marriage. Such things have been, as is well known; and it is much to be regretted that they should have been possible. But it is not the less unpleasant that the actualities of the position of one who is at the same time a wife and not a wife should be thus brought forward; and the calm way in which the heroine's false position is contemplated by herself, her morganatic husband, and the members of her family adds an additional element of repulsiveness to a story repulsive enough in itself. Evermond, the only son and heir of his Royal Highness the Prince of Melsungen, is the hero—a very unheroic hero—of Miss Marie Connor's novel; and, carried away by his passion for the beautiful Rania, the daughter of a worthless old scoundrel, he contracts a *Morganatic Marriage* with her. The only member of the family who takes a true view of the position is Charles, whose perceptions are rather sharpened by his Nihilist views, which lead him to hate his sister's false lover much, but the Prince of Melsungen still more. The person who most deserves our sympathy is the Princess Maude, with whom the latter contracts a legal marriage; and, next to her, we fear that our sympathies are most aroused by the Nihilist. We certainly have none to spare for the Prince himself. Rania deserves credit for her resistance to his dishonourable proposals that she should return to him after his marriage with Princess Maude, and it is one of the unwholesome features in the book that this resistance is deprecated rather than approved by the writer. She has not, however, sufficient proper pride to continue to resist after the poor Princess is killed off by a carriage accident; and in the end all is brought to what is supposed to be a happy, but is certainly not a very satisfactory, conclusion by that accident and the consequent restoration of the morganatic wife to the full privileges of her equivocal position. It is rather difficult to get through the book, and the ordinary reader may be pardoned if he sticks fast in the course of the first volume. But those who, like ourselves, are bound to a more minute and critical investigation will struggle on wearily enough to the end of the third volume. The only result of that struggle, however, is to induce us to warn others all the more emphatically not to plunge into it. Rania herself has, we are told, "blended unscrupulous ambition with deepest tenderness," and she accepts her degraded position with a blending of the two, which disqualifies her from the reader's sympathy. As for Prince Evermond, there is nothing to be said in his favour; and when we survey the other characters, with the exception of the injured but colourless Princess Maude we find little if anything to attract us. It is a proof of the absence of any attractive element in the book that we find ourselves bestowing some of the sympathy which can find no other outlet on Charles himself, the conspirator, would-be murderer, and suicide. He has, at all events, enough of the man in him to recognise the false position in which his sister is placed, acceptable as that position seems to be to her miserable husband and her yet more miserable father.

* *A Morganatic Marriage*. By Marie Connor. In Three Vols.—London: F. V. White and Co., 1885.

*Mrs. Keith's Crime** is a very painful story, and the unquestionable power and skill shown by the anonymous writer in the telling of it do but add to the discomfort which the reader must feel in the reading of it. Though thrown into an autobiographical form, it is necessary that an excuse should be made by the narrator for the adoption of that form, which is most unnatural and, indeed, impossible under the circumstances, though it adds undoubtedly to the artistic effect. The heroine is the widow of a young painter, whose sudden death left her alone to battle with the world, and to support her two orphan children on a very scanty allowance. One of the children is killed off early in the novel, and the rest of it is occupied mainly with the killing off of the other. It might appear to the hard-hearted critic that little Molly is, like his late Majesty King Charles II., an unconscionable time in dying, but more susceptible readers will have their sympathies touched by the pathetic, if somewhat drawn-out, description of her fatal illness. What the crime is we are not allowed to guess till quite the end of the book, and when it is revealed it comes with a shock upon us. It may, indeed, be doubted whether such a book ought ever to have been written, and we can well fancy that many readers will consider it to be outside the limits of what is legitimate in the way of fiction. Certainly few more painful chapters are to be found in modern fiction than those with which the novel closes; and though we have no objection, as a rule, to having our feelings harrowed, we feel that we must draw the line at such a story as that of *Mrs. Keith's Crime*. But it would not be fair on the writer to refuse to acknowledge the literary skill which he—or, as we are inclined to believe, she—has bestowed upon the working out of it. The tender pathos of many of the scenes, the slightly but effectively-painted background of Spanish life and Spanish customs, the unselfishness of the heroine's Jewish friend, who is known by the unromantic epithet of "the Sardine," the lovers' quarrels of Ralph Bicknell and Mary Vincent—all these lead us to qualify the disapproval which we feel bound to express at the main feature of the novel, and make us desire to encounter the writer once more when she has selected for treatment a less unpleasant subject.

A Regular Pickle† is not without a rough vigour and a certain amount of coarse humour which may render it attractive to readers who are not very particular in their tastes. But we should not ourselves feel disposed to recommend it strongly to our readers, and we cannot help thinking that Mr. Nesfield is capable of better work than he has here given us. There may be some people so peculiarly constituted as to derive amusement from the account of the monkish brotherhood of St. Tarrydiddle which is here given, but though it may tickle the ears of the groundlings, it cannot but make the judicious grieve. To quote once again a saying of the famous Dr. Keate, the wit does not compensate for the vulgarity. Whatever feeling may be entertained against the revived monasticism which has found expression among some of the least judicious disciples of the Anglo-Catholic revival, everyone except Mr. Nesfield would be prepared to admit the honesty, if not the wisdom, of the motives which have brought it about. Such a burlesque caricature of that revival as is here given will hardly be accepted even within the select circle of Exeter Hall. There is no adequate motive supplied for the hypocrisy not only of the *Regular Pickle* himself, but of the other members of the brotherhood. The best part of the book is that dealing with Archibald Tregault's Egyptian experiences, but we have not much praise to bestow upon the best part of the book, while the worst part of it is beneath criticism. As we have said, we believe that Mr. Nesfield could do better, and we hope that he will soon publish something to justify our belief, and take out of our mouth the very nasty taste left in it by *A Regular Pickle*.

SOME REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

We have to apologise for the lateness of our notices of the monthly serials. *Blackwood* is a fair number. With the opening article, on our want of Proper Armament, we dealt in detail a month ago. The new story of "Fortune's Wheel" makes a second step, and "The Waters of Hercules" a tenth; the latter has much improved in its progress. A review of Mr. Hyde's book on the Royal Mail could not help being interesting; but such works often leave out more than they retain. The Trawling Commission is examined, with the unpleasant result of confirming the sentence gone forth against the smaller fishermen. In these days of competition the weakest goes to the wall, and the big trader pays no "ransom" to the little one. "Summer in the Soudan" is another melancholy refrain (though not so meant) of the universal cry "Too late." We begin to fear that Mr. Gladstone's overthrow itself will come too late. "London in May" tells of the parks, the pictures (especially Mr. Holman Hunt's), and the play: all P's and no Q's—i.e., no religious meetings, which probably bring more people up than all the others. Cheap Telegrams are shown to risk a deficit to be paid by those who do not share the benefit. People who live in country villages and pay seven or eight shillings for a telegram wish this had been thought of before the shilling agitators were promised a 50 per cent. reduction. The Royal Mail used to be a marvel of speed and

* *Mrs. Keith's Crime*. In Two Vols.—London: R. Bentley and Son, 1885.

† *A Regular Pickle*. By Henry W. Nesfield. In One Vol.—London: George Redway, 1885.

punctuality, but the Post Office seems now as helpless as a baby the moment it gets off the railway. "Curiosities of Politics" are clever, among other skits containing a capital hit at the G. O. M., under the title of "The Employment of 'Cant in Public Affairs.'"

The most important contribution to the *Contemporary* is Canon Cook's review of the *Kalevala*: the "Song of the Race." This is the great national epic of Finland, which, though translated into French and German, has not yet appeared in English. The poem is of singular interest, not only for its literary excellence, but for its high religious value. It represents Creation as the work of the Supreme Deity, called Ukko, the Ancient, and Jumela, "the exact equivalent of the Elohim (qu. Jehovah) of the Hebrews, the absolute personal Deity." The Race begins with a supernatural man, born full-grown of a "daughter of the air," who descends upon the waters in a mighty rushing wind and acts the part of the Demiurge. Canon Cook gives numerous translations from the Runes, breathing the spirit of genuine poetry. The adventures are thoroughly Scandinavian, but without the savage cruelty of the sea kings. It ends with a confused vision of a wondrous child, born of a virgin called Mariatta, conspired against by a King Ruotaa (identified with Herod), and is mysteriously carried away into a marsh. The sun calls him his creator, and he is declared to be the beginning of a new dispensation upon earth. These remarkable legends were collected from the mouths of the people by Dr. Lönnrot, who began his researches in 1828; but no suggestion is offered of the original author or date. Canon Cook conceives them to be a real epic, of which the hero is "the chief and representative of all pre-Christian civilization." The language supplies the transitional link between the Arian and the Turanian. The sentiments contain strange echoes both from the Vedas and the Bible. The religion is distinctly Theistic, and the humanity less ferocious than in other Scandinavian poetry, or even in classical antiquity. Mr. Cook holds it to have an important bearing on the question of the unity of the human race. Probably no one knows more of our Relations with Turkey than Sir A. H. Layard; nor of India, and for that matter of Asia and the world at large, than Sir Richard Temple. The former advocates a return to the Ottoman Alliance as the true remedy against Egyptian Anarchy and Russian Aggression. The other warns us that the growth of civil prosperity in India curtails the power of recruiting for the Native Armies, and though some troops could be transferred from the Native States to the mutual benefit, the European forces can admit of no reduction. Everything shows clearer and clearer the disastrous results of Mr. Gladstone's mad passion for reversing Lord Beaconsfield's policy in Afghanistan and with Russia. Sir John Lubbock contributes an interesting paper on "Leaves," Principal Fairbairn a tough one on "Catholicism and Modern Thought," and Lady Verney—begging her pardon—a perfectly useless one on that wearisome *fad* "Little Holdings," or, as she prefers to call them, "takes." Farmers and labourers know their own wishes and powers better than ladies and gentlemen can teach them. They may be trusted to do what pays best when they have any means of doing it. "The Mystery of Faith" is a well-intentioned and fairly executed paper, by Mr. Francis Peek. Mr. Arnold White, writing on the "Nomad Poor of London," discloses a fact not commonly known with regard to the relation of crime to pauperism. Formerly the statistics fluctuated in nearly the same proportion, but the last thirty years show a remarkable change: crime has sunk when pauperism rose; in 1849 and in 1883 the maximum of pauperism coincided with the minimum of crime. Mr. White hints that the change may be due to Reform and the Education Acts; but it happens that both were at their lowest in 1860 and at their highest in 1870. "Contemporary 'Life and Thought in Russia'" is followed by the usual "Contemporary Records," "Ecclesiastical History," by Professor Stokes; Fiction, by Miss Wedgwood, and General Literature.

The *Nineteenth Century* presents a programme more remarkable for quantity than quality: papers fairly good in themselves, but not brilliant in the ensemble. His Highness Prince Halim Pasha hints that he could govern Egypt and the Sudan better than his nephew, the Khedive, under British tuition. That is not saying much. His Highness would pretty certainly neither surrender nor scuttle. Prince Krapotkin is sorry that his country cannot fail to get the better of ours in the coming war. Neither is likely to do much good in Asia, where they are only fighting for markets to dispose of their manufactures. Civilization would be best advanced by carrying it among the savages of Moscow and Whitechapel. That is hardly fair on the East-end. Mr. Justice Stephen is at the pains of justifying the Variations in the Punishment of Crime arising from the discretion (or indiscretion) of the Judges. Certainly, we can think of no way of limiting it except by mutual conference and good sense. The most notable paper is Sir Henry Thompson's on Diet in relation to Age and Activity. It is nothing like so practical as it looks, unless with such as have learned to be their own physicians, and these know it all already. It is a strong thing to say that over-eating is worse than over-drinking; but there is a truth in it which may be commended to our Total Abstinents, some of whom eat as if they had a pack of wolves in their stomach. In "Shakespeare and Stage Costume," Mr. Oscar Reade

protests against "young ladies who insist on 'wearing stiff-starched petticoats under Greek dresses, to the entire ruin of all delicacy of line and fold,' pathetically adding, 'these wicked things ought not to be allowed!'" Mr. M'Naughton espouses the cause of the Red Man. He is not incapable of civilization; but he has discovered the squeezability of the White Man. When he is troublesome he gets attended to; when he is peaceable he is eaten up. It appears that Congress is now going to make a "capable citizen" of him. Poor Red Man! Mr. A. E. Shipley informs us that death is an illusion; there is really no such thing; it is not even the end of life, but rather the beginning, *mors janua vite*. As the individual exists for the good of the species, and not for any selfish and private ends, death is a public blessing. What an argument for capital punishment! Sir Patrick MacDougall is disquieted by the new system of Infantry Tactics, which, instead of the famous red line, advances to battle in a square, to the loss of three-fourths of the fire. Mr. Bowen Jones shows that a farm that really pays must be very unlike Lady Catherine Gaskell's picture of a small tenant and his family working like a horse for fourteen hours a day and earning less than a labourer's wages. Dr. Gasquet, though not opposed to Lunacy Law Reform in the abstract, protests against "legislation in a panic." Naturally; but unless the public is alarmed there is no reform. Of Archdeacon Farrar's answer to Lord Bramwell on "Drink" we have already written at length. Mr. Isidor Goldsmith explains at needless length why he left Russia. Having first published a scientific review at St. Petersburg, and then joined the bar at Moscow, he naturally became obnoxious to the police; was accused of high treason, and very wisely got away to avoid being sent to prison. Sir H. R. Green advocates the defence of India on its own frontier, which he calls the great wall of India.

Mrs. Ritchie continues her novel in *Macmillan*, and very careful, well-written commonplace it is. "French Views of English Writers" are dissected with more pains than most Englishmen care for. Mr. R. Fisher warns us not to count on Canadian loyalty as a factor in Imperial federation. Canada minds her own business, protects her industries, and has no notion of taxing herself for the blunders of the British Government all over the world. We should think the last five years of Liberal administration must make the bare idea of Imperial federation horrible to any colonist for the next century. Professor Ramsay discusses "Scotch and English Educational Endowments," with the happy certainty that belongs of right to a Scotchman and a Professor. Mrs. Molesworth's story, "Unexplained," has nothing to wonder at so far. We can wait for the mystery. There are a "Few Last Words on 'Day Schools and Boarding Schools,'" and a spirited translation from Carducci's *Odi Barbare*, by H. Courthope Bowen. The Review of the Month shows no spark of faith in Mr. Gladstone's Foreign Policy anywhere. He is quite right to yield to Russia and scuttle out of Egypt. His mistake was in ever pretending to a foreign policy. In this Mr. Morley only expresses the general opinion.

Several features of peculiar interest to ladies will be found in the current part of *Myra's Journal*. In addition to the usual coloured fashion plate there is a full-sized paper pattern of the Beryl Pólerine, a diagram sheet giving at once five useful patterns, and many admirably executed illustrations of the latest Paris fashions.

The *Season* has an exhaustive review of the latest novelties and hand needlework, the whole being richly illustrated. There are three coloured fashion plates, nearly 150 woodcuts, and several flat paper pattern embroidery designs, the whole tending to greatly enhance the world-wide reputation of this excellent magazine.

When we noticed a fortnight since that Messrs. Cassell had brought to an end their serial *Picturesque America*, we mentioned that they promised to supply its place with a new serial entitled *Picturesque Canada*. The first number of the new venture is now before us, and it certainly opens well with Quebec, which is perhaps the city best deserving of that epithet in the New World. Readers of Mr. Howell's delightful *Wedding Journey and A Chance Acquaintance* and of others of his little books, will remember how graphically he has described it, and will be glad to see some of the scenes which that artist with the pen has so well painted reproduced by the skill of the artist. We may mention specially the sketch in the garden of the Ursuline Convent, with its memories of Madame de la Petrie and Mère Marie. The quaint old-world tone which reminds the visitor to Quebec of the days of the first French and English settlers is well reproduced both in the illustrations and in the letterpress; and by beginning with Quebec, Principal Grant, of Queen's University, Kingston, to whom the editorial supervision of the work has been fittingly entrusted, has certainly led off with his trump card. But at the same time he has much of interest in reserve with which to follow up the undoubted success which he has achieved in his first number. The steel engraving of Quebec, which is published with the part before us, is a really beautiful work of art.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

The volume of Messrs. Macmillan's *English Citizen* series devoted to *Justice and Police* was originally placed in the hands of Mr. C. F. Albert. But unfortunately for the publishers, and we may add still more unfortunately for our Indian

Empire, he was called away to discharge other and more important duties in reference to the latter. We own to a deep feeling of regret that he should not have confined himself to a more harmless sphere of labour, and it would have been better, both for England and for India, that he should have been left free to write little textbooks for Messrs. Macmillan, rather than to compose Ilbert Bills for Lord Ripon. This is, however, by the way, and we are now concerned, not with what might have been, but what has been. Mr. Maitland has succeeded to the task which Mr. Ilbert has abandoned, and has used in the performance of it some of the materials which his predecessor had prepared, though he is careful to state that no responsibility for the book in its present shape rests upon that predecessor. He also acknowledges his obligations to many other writers on English law, especially Mr. Justice Stephen and Dr. Rudolph Gneist. Of the former of these it is unnecessary to speak, but we must own our ignorance of the claim of the latter to be regarded as a standard authority on such a subject. Mr. Maitland has done his work well, and not the less well in that he has disclaimed the ambition of attempting an exhaustive treatise. He has only devoted himself to the mere outlines of his subject, that subject being, as the title-page informs us, *Justice and Police*, by which, as he explains the terms, are meant those institutions and processes whereby the law of the country is enforced, whereby those who are wronged obtain their legal remedies, and those who commit crimes are brought to their legal punishments. He abstains from going into details, and those familiar with the subject of which he treats will find his information rather meagre, but for the general reader it is compactly put together, and will probably be found sufficient. We may, however, be allowed to regret that he should have found nothing else to say of the Ecclesiastical Courts than that "they have a memorable history."

Messrs. Blackwood have added to their *Educational Series* a *Fourth* and also a *Fifth Standard Reader*, which will maintain the repute of that series. The selections are made with much judgment and cover a wide range, from Froissart to the war correspondent of the *Standard*.

Discriminate (Griffith and Farran), which is intended as a companion to *Don't*, is by no means so amusing as the earlier work, but like it shows abundant signs of an American origin. Many of the mistakes of language against which we are here warned are purely American, and are little likely to be made by any Englishman of average intelligence and education. We do not think that we stand so much in need of Transatlantic advisers as the compiler of this little volume appears to consider, and the sense of fun which reconciled us to those advisers in the earlier volume is entirely absent in its successor.

We have our doubts whether any game in which manual skill is required can profitably be learned from a book. *Lawn Tennis* is no exception, and we look with distrust on any attempt to teach the inexperienced by means of written instructions. But if it were possible so to teach them, we think it would be done by Lieutenant Peile, whose useful little handbook, just published by Messrs. Blackwood, is a model of what such a handbook ought to be. We own that we heartily sympathise with him in his denunciation of "the man at the net."

Some years ago the appearance of an ingenious writer's books on Etou created a sensation, which was not confined to the little world of Etou itself. As a graphic picture of the life of a modern schoolboy, *About Some Fellows* is almost unique. Since that book was written, the author has seemingly been wise enough to let his pen rest while he gathered experience. He has seen a good deal of the world, both the Old and the New. In *Written to Order* (Sampson Low and Co.) he gives us his experience of South America, which was unfortunately limited owing to an accident which befell the writer on his outward voyage and confined him during most of his stay to the walls of the English Hospital at Buenos Ayres. We are selfishly glad that the traveller went alone, for his solitude enabled him to devote himself to the study, first of his fellow-travellers, then, and in a less degree, of the natives of the country; and we gain much that is amusing and something which is instructive from his studies. Perhaps there is nothing more striking than the genesis of the book, which accounts for its strange title. Apparently, when the traveller returned there was great curiosity among all his friends and acquaintances to know how he had spent his time abroad. He did as much as he could for them, and told everybody what he or she—especially she—wanted, as far as he knew; and when he found that wasn't sufficient for them, he added one or two things further than he knew; but still they were not satisfied. It was to check this evil that the author, feeling that a few months of this retravelling the whole expedition would quite finish him, determined, as he candidly tells us, to "save a great deal of trouble by putting everything together and lumping it on his friends in a consolidated mass." *Hinc illa lacrymæ*. This is how the book came into the world. But if, as we confidently anticipate, this volume finds its welcome as hearty as it certainly deserves, the author will have no reason to regret that his friends were *exigent*, and that he was complaisant. To be taken in limited quantities, we can cordially recommend *Written to Order*.

Professor Wilkins has supplied to the *School Class Books* of Messrs. Macmillan an edition of the *Epistles of Horace*, including the *Arte Poetica*, which is accompanied by a somewhat disproportionate amount of notes. While the text is

comprised in 77 pages, the notes and index bring up the volume to 428 pages, and we are irresistibly reminded of the proportion of bread and of sack for which Sir John Falstaff was charged. We venture to doubt whether in a book intended for school use it is desirable to give "not only decisions, but also discussions, on every point of difficulty," as the learned editor acknowledges to having done in the present case.

Mr. Dodgson, known to the world at large as the author of *Alice in Wonderland*, but to a more intimate circle as the late Mathematical Tutor at Christ Church, Oxford, has issued a supplement to the amusing volume on *Euclid and his Modern Rivals*, which was noticed by us some time since on its first appearance. Like that volume, the present supplement is published by Messrs. Macmillan, and it deals with Henri's Geometry, which is subjected to the same severe treatment as the other modern rivals of the old geometrician have already met with at Mr. Dodgson's hands. It would be too much to say of the supplement, as it would have been too much to say of the original work, that the author is always quite fair in his criticism, and he certainly avails himself to the uttermost of the advantages which the dialogue form that he has adopted supplies to him. It is easy and tempting to put into the mouth of one's opponent the weaker, and into the mouth of his critic the stronger, arguments. But, even making allowance for this, it must be acknowledged that Mr. Dodgson's criticism of Dr. Henri is, to say the least, crushing.

Correspondence.

THE DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER BILL.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—It has been stated, on what seems good authority, that no less than sixty Conservative Peers (including seven Roman Catholics) are prepared to vote for this measure in the House of Peers.

Now, if the Tory members of that House do not desire and are not prepared to defend what remains of the Christian Law of Marriage, people may well ask, "What are they prepared to defend and conserve?"

The Anglican clergy have lost much of their influence, I know. But they still possess a little. Even that little may not be given to the Tory party at the coming election, if such a wicked and despicable policy be adopted by so many of those who ought always to be found on the side of Christian law and social order.—Yours truly,

FREDERICK GEORGE LEE.

All Saints', Lambeth, May 27.

LONDON DIOCESAN LAY-HELPERS' ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—Will you allow me to plead through your columns for funds to support an interesting and much-needed work carried on by some members of the London Diocesan Lay-Helpers' Association at St. Mary's, Johnson-street, E., with the concurrence of the vicar of the parish? The work has grown out of the London Mission of last November. Before entering upon it, it was necessary to execute some repairs in the schoolroom in order to adapt it for the purposes of the Sunday evening services and the fortnightly entertainments which were deemed a necessary adjunct. The expense of this was about £23, and there is still more to do.

The source from which the band of workers reasonably hoped to defray this amount unexpectedly failed them, and the work does not fall within the conditions which would have allowed of help being given by the East London Church Fund. The work has, however, the cordial sympathy of the Bishop of Bedford, the Rev. J. F. Kitto, rector of Stepney, and others connected with that fund. The parish is wholly composed of very poor people, who, owing to depression of trade, are quite unable to help. The workers are all volunteers, and come from a considerable distance several times a week. The annual expenses of the mission would amount to £40 a year, which those who conduct it must look for entirely from outside. In addition to this some temporal help must be given.

In no part of London is there greater necessity for a work of this kind, inasmuch as the dense population in the district, with few exceptions, never attend any place of worship, and live entirely without God in the world. I earnestly trust that this appeal may move the hearts of good Christians to support a mission which without their help must soon be closed. Contributions will be received, and any further information gladly given, either by Mr. Fells, 26, Cornwall-road, Finsbury-park, N., licensed reader in the diocese of London, who is in charge of the mission; or by your obedient servant,

GEORGE A. SPOTTISWOODE.

3, Cadogan-square, S.W., May 28.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

The Ven. Archdeacon Atkinson, Vicar of Dorking, to Rectory of Frensham.
Rev. E. W. J. Banks, to Vicarage of St. Augustine, South Hackney. Patron, the Rector of South Hackney.
Rev. F. T. Bassett, Vicar of Dulverton, to be Prebendary of Combe, the twelfth in Wells Cathedral. Patron, the Bishop.
Rev. H. C. Boeching, Curate of St. Matthew and James, Mosley-hill, Liverpool, to Rectory of Yattendon, Berks.
Rev. Canon Burnett, Vicar of St. Thomas's, Bishopwearmouth, to Rectory of Kelloe, and Rural Dean of the Deanery of Easington. Patron, the Bishop of Durham.
Rev. J. A. Cross, Curate-in-Charge of the Mission District of St. Stephen's, Pentonville, to Vicarage of St. John's, Little Ilkeston.
Rev. J. Deans, Vicar of Melbourne, Derbyshire, to be Surrogate for the Diocese of Southwell.
Rev. W. H. F. Edge, Curate of Fitcham, near Leatherhead, to Vicarage of Tilford.
Rev. J. H. J. Ellison, Curate of Kensington, to be Incumbent of St. Gabriel's, Pimlico. Patron, the Duke of Westminster.
Rev. Canon Falconer, Vicar of Stockton, to Rectory of Sedgfield. Patron, the Bishop of Durham.
Rev. E. H. Goodwin, Chaplain to the Forces Fourth Class, to be Chaplain of the Third Class.

Rev. F. R. Gribbell, Vicar of Christ Church, Erith, to be Organising Secretary for A.P.G. for Archdeaconry of Malden, and for the Deaneries of Cobham, Rochester, and Gravesend.

Rev. F. Harrison, Curate of the Parish Church, Lancaster, to be Assistant Secretary of the Manchester Diocesan Church Building Society.

Rev. H. F. Hamilton, to Rectory of Mappowder, Dorset. Patron, the Crown.

Rev. J. B. H. Hawkins, to be Assistant Inspector of Schools in the Deanery of Chew.

Rev. K. F. Hopkins, to be Assistant Inspector of Schools in the Deanery of Hchester.

Rev. H. T. Inman, to Rectory of Great Woolston with Little Woolston, Bucks. Patron, the Lord Chancellor.

Rev. O. C. S. Lang, Rector of Fresham, to Rectory of Bentley, Hants.

Rev. F. H. Manley, Assistant Master of Felstead School, to Vicarage of Little Dunmow. Patron, Major T. L. Tuke.

Rev. H. Martin, Vicar of St. John's, Sunderland, to Vicarage of Stockton.

Rev. F. F. Morgan, to Rectory of Ludgershall, Bucks. Patron, Mr. E. G. Gore Langton, of Moot Farm, near Downton, Wils.

Rev. L. B. Morris, Rector of Thornton-in-Craven, to be Surrogate for the Diocese of Ripon.

Rev. J. Mountain, to Rectory of Hampton Poyle, Oxon. Patron, Queen's College, Oxford.

Rev. J. A. Naylor, Minor Canon of Ripon Cathedral, to be Surrogate for the Diocese of Ripon.

Rev. A. W. L. Rivett, Vicar of St. Martin-at-Palace, Norwich, to Vicarage of St. Mary Magdalene, Barnstable. Patron, the Bishop of Exeter.

Rev. W. M. Roberts, Curate of Welshpool, to Vicarage of Bettis-Croft. Patron, the Earl of Powis.

Rev. W. A. Sheringham, Vicar of Alsager, to Rectory of Donnington, near Altringham.

Rev. I. W. Tapper, to Vicarage of Stapleford, Notts. Patron, Miss Lydia Hope Aldersey.

Rev. J. Thompson, to be Missions to Seamen Chaplain, the Medway.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS.—Revs. Joseph George, to Cutcombe; Thomas Gordon Hake, to Loxborough.

LICENCE TO CURACY BY THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.—Rev. George Arthur Cowan, to Sherborne.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF SOUTHWELL.—Revs. Robert Lingen Burton, to Clifton; Robert Lethbridge Farmer, to Ockbrook; William Seely, B.A., to Buxton.

OBITUARY.

May 18, at Pentre Eucha, the Rev. F. E. H. Payne, late Vicar of Hawker Church, Regent-street, aged 36.

May 19, at Walsingham, R. H. Gray, M.A., Rector of Walsingham and Hon. Canon of Chester, aged 67.

May 19, at Hardwick Vicarage, Hay, the Rev. T. W. Webb, M.A., twenty-eight years Vicar of the parish, and Prebendary of Hereford Cathedral, aged 79.

May 20, at Little Leighs Rectory, the Rev. John Green, M.A., aged 67.

May 20, at Belmont Vicarage, Bolton-le-Moors, the Rev. William Wall, M.A., aged 83.

May 21, at Dinapore, Bengal, the Rev. Frank Hortor, B.A., Chaplain.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

The Bishop of Salisbury has given authority for the announcement that he will resign the bishopric in the course of the ensuing summer, and steps to give effect to this determination are now being taken. The formal announcement had been anticipated for some time in the diocese, and was known to only await the conclusion of a diocesan lawsuit in which the Bishop has been engaged. Dr. Moberley, who is in his 82nd year, has been for some time in such a state of health as to require the aid in the diocese of Dr. Kelly, formerly Bishop of Newfoundland. He was from his extreme feebleness unable to preside over the annual Synod held in May, and he has not for some months been able to perform any duties requiring physical effort. He would have, had he continued in the position till the end of the summer, held the bishopric for sixteen years. The most important of the evidences of his work in the diocese is the Annual Synod, an assembly of both laymen and clergymen, and which has attained a position of great popularity.

After a long and painful illness the Rev. Robert O. Burton, vicar of Minera, near Wrexham, died on Wednesday afternoon, at his residence, Minera Hall, near Wrexham, at the age of 60.

The ancient Church of St. Oswald, at Filey, which marks the boundary between the East and North Ridings of Yorkshire, is to be restored at a cost of £3,600, most of which has already been subscribed.

Mr. John Shaw and Mr. Reginald Naylor, of Derby, have been appointed diocesan surveyors for dilapidations in the diocese of Southwell.

Mr. John Mitchell, who for the last seventy years had been a member of the choir of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, has been presented by the lay-clerks with an illuminated address, upon the anniversary of his joining the choir, which he entered when about six years old.

Mr. Charles Powell, secretary of the Church of England Working Men's Society, left Liverpool on Saturday for the United States, where he is going on a lecturing tour. He carries with him letters commendatory from the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Bishops, clergy, and faithful laity of the Church in America.

The death of the Rev. Nathaniel Small, vicar of Market Bosworth, has been reported to the Leicester-shire Coroner. The reverend gentleman was burned to death at the Vicarage. The deceased, it appears, got up to put coal on the fire in his room; being aged, he overbalanced himself, and fell on the fire. He sufficiently recovered himself to roll on the hearthrug, where he was found by the page enveloped in flames and in great agony. The fire was extinguished, but mortal injuries were sustained, and death quickly supervened. The deceased was in his 80th year.

The Bishop of Durham opened the Missions to Seamen Church and Institute at South Shields on Whit Monday. It consists of a lofty hall to accommodate 300 seamen and a caretaker's quarters, with a handsome church overhead to seat 450 sailors. The building, which is near to the shipping offices were crews are engaged, is of red brick and white facings, and cost £3,687, of which £387 have yet to be raised. It is intended for seamen of all nations frequenting the Tyne, and will replace the Mission ship, a frigate formerly commanded by Sir William Peel, which for nineteen years has indifferently served as a place of worship for sailors, and which the Missions to Seamen will now return to the Admiralty.

Last week the St. Barnabas Church Committee, Cambridge, unanimously adopted the following resolution:—

That this meeting hears with the deepest regret that the Rev. H. Hall, vicar of St. Paul's, has upon the receipt of the resignation of the present curate-in-charge of St. Barnabas, not offered to him the prospective position of vicar-designate, but has, in the face of the repeated expression of opinion from the worshippers in the church and inhabitants of the district, appointed a stranger to the curacy.

The Rev. Canon Carus, who since 1851 has held a stall in Winchester Cathedral, has placed his resignation in the hands of the Bishop of the diocese. He will be succeeded by the Ven. Archdeacon Sumner, now rector of Old Alresford, Hants. Canon Carus, who is eighty years of age, is one of the Simeon Trustees, and is the author of a memoir of Charles Simeon.

The Queen has graciously given her consent to the vicars and churchwardens of Kew for a *fête* and bazaar to be held in the Queen's Cottage and grounds, for the purpose of extinguishing the debt on the Royal Church at Kew, which has recently been enlarged. This beautiful and historic spot is contiguous to Kew-gardens, and was, in the early years of Her Majesty's reign, frequently visited by the Queen and the Prince Consort.

The annual "Ramsden" sermon was preached in the University Church at Cambridge, on Sunday afternoon, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who specially referred to the subject of missions, and traced their history from the early days of the Church to the present time. Missions now were missions of societies, for the division of religious opinion of late years had been so great that no Government had dared to give them any support. He urged that all these societies should receive the support of the Church, even if they be of no other denomination. The recent changes in University legislation had, perhaps, unconsciously aided mission work, and this was exemplified by the noble band of undergraduates who had recently gone out to carry out unaided that work.

A morning concert will be given at St. Augustine's Parish Room, 117, Queen's-gate, on Tuesday next, in aid of the fund for the gates and railings of the church. The Countess of Carnwath, Countess of Cottenham, Dowager Lady Inchiquin, Dowager Lady Westbury, Lady Lopes, Lady Ingfield, and Lady Lefroy are announced as patronesses, and several distinguished artists and amateurs have promised their assistance. Mr. Clifford Harrison has also kindly consented to give some recitations.

The Rev. Thomas William Webb, M.A., vicar of Hardwick, near Hay, and Prebendary of Hereford Cathedral, died last week. Mr. Webb graduated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, taking his Bachelor's degree as a second class in mathematics in 1829, and proceeding M.A. in due course. He was ordained deacon in 1830, and admitted to priest's orders in the following year by the Bishop of Hereford (Dr. Huntingford). Mr. Webb was formerly a Minor Canon and Precentor of Gloucester Cathedral, and having held successively the curacies of Penocoyd, Harewood, St. Leonard's, Garaneur, and Tretire with Michaelchurch, was instituted in 1856 to the vicarage of Hardwick, in the diocese of Hereford.

The Rev. Henry Montagu Butler, D.D., late Master of Harrow School, was formally installed as Dean of Gloucester Cathedral at the afternoon service on Saturday. The deanery was rendered vacant by the decease of the Rev. Henry Law, D.D., in December, 1884, he having held the post nearly a quarter of a century. In the first week of the new year it was announced that the Rev. Edward Henry Bickersteth, M.A., vicar of Christ Church, Hampstead, had been appointed by the Crown to fill the vacancy, and a few days after the installation ceremony had been performed it was announced that the new Dean had been appointed to the Bishopric of Exeter, rendered vacant by the translation of Dr. Temple to the See of London in place of the late Dr. Jackson. In February the vacancy in the Cathedral constitution was filled by the appointment of Dr. Butler. Nearly all the local and district clergy attended, and the ceremony of institution was performed by the Lord Bishop of the diocese. The ceremony of installation was performed by the Sub-Dean, the Rev. Canon St. John. The Mayor and Corporation of the City attended in their robes of office, and the service was full choral. Two anthems were sung, "Blessed be the God and Father" (Wesley) and "Thou shalt keep him," by the Cathedral organist, Mr. C. L. Williams, Mus. B.; and the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* were by Dr. Garrett. Dr. Butler is the youngest son of the late Rev. George Butler, D.D., Head Master for 24 years of Harrow, and afterwards Dean of Peterborough, and was born in 1833. He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he was Senior Classic in 1853, graduating M.A. in 1858, and D.D. in 1867. He was ordained and admitted to Holy Orders in 1859 by the Bishop of Lichfield. From 1855 to 1859 he was a Fellow of Trinity College, and on the retirement of Dr. Vaughan from the Head Mastership of Harrow, in December of that year, Dr. Butler was selected to fill the vacancy. From 1875 to 1877 he was Hon. Chaplain to the Queen, and made Chaplain in Ordinary in 1877. He had also been Examining Chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury, select preacher at both Universities, and Prebendary of Holborn in St. Paul's Cathedral.

A special meeting of the Thames Church Mission was held at Exeter Hall on Wednesday, Canon Fleming in the chair. The Chairman pointed out at some length the value of this mission and its moral and Christian results in connection with the seamen and bargemen of the Thames. He related several instances in which the work of the mission had been productive of good, and said its practical fruits in the port of London were very valuable. To spread the Gospel among the seamen and bargemen of the Thames was the primary object of the mission, and in that most noble object the mission had abundantly succeeded. The Rev. Henry Bloomer, the mission chaplain stationed at Gravesend, pointed out his successful experiences at that port, and amongst those who testified to the success of the mission were Mr. Carter (lay missionary), Mr. J. Winter (Regent's Canal Basin), Mr. W. Field, Mr. H. Smalden, and others. The proceedings were agreeably diversified by musical selections contributed by the band of the boys' training ships.

A debate took place on Wednesday in the Established Church Assembly, Edinburgh, on the subject of Disestablishment. Principal Tulloch, who presented the report of a committee, expressed satisfaction with the prompt and spontaneous action of the people in signing the petitions against the Disestablishment Bill. The result had been to prove that the Church was really strong in the affections of the people of Scotland. Of all the misstatements deliberately circulated, there was none less true than

that the Church of Scotland was merely an agency on the side of Conservatism. There were no more influential Liberals, if they chose to exert their influence in Scotland, than many who belonged to the Church of Scotland. If it was true that what was called religious equality, and the consequent abolition of the National Church, was the necessary outcome of Liberal principles, time should be given to show that. If Disestablishment was a true child of Liberalism, it had been a late child and quite unexpected by the Great Father. If it was a true child at all, surely it should be allowed time for growth and development. The idea of union among Presbyterian Churches in Scotland was a fair idea, and one that the Church would never disown; but it had become an impracticable idea, not because disowned by them, but because it had been deliberately put beyond their reach by those who had ends of their own to serve, and who would rather see the Church of Scotland destroyed than that those ends should not be attained. But they were not yet destroyed, nor yet, he believed, were they on the eve of destruction. They had resources at their command, and if they were driven to bring out their resources into the field they would do so, and he believed unanimously; and if wreck came to either political party in the conflict, and this country was once more torn with ecclesiastical contentions, they would have the satisfaction of thinking that the contention was not one of their seeking, and that they had done all they could to avert it. Mr. J. A. Campbell, M.P., seconded the motion for the adoption of the report, which was supported by Lord Balfour of Burleigh, who challenged the Free Church to make a demonstration such as that which had been made by the Church of Scotland with their great body of petitions. He urged Churchmen, whether Liberal or Conservative, to support candidates for Parliament who would defend the Church and defeat the Liberationists. He complained that the leaders of the Liberal party did not say what their policy on the question was to be. Dr. Cunningham, of Crieff, said he had been a Liberal all his life; but, if he was forced to it, he would vote on the Conservative side, if his doing so would prevent a "Disestablisher" representing him in Parliament. The Assembly approved of the report, and expressed joy at the large response made to the invitation recommending the appointment of committees on Church interests in the various Presbyteries, and renewing instructions to the Committee to use every available means of defending the interests of the Church and of maintaining in its integrity its position as a National Church.

A "Diocesan Chancellor" writes to the *Times*:—"Sir W. Harcourt appears to have told the House of Commons with some elaboration, and not as a mere *obiter dictum*, that 'the Church Building Act' (which is the Church Building Act, I wonder?) gives compulsory power to obtain sites for churches; and then he enlarged on the unfairness of such a 'monopoly,' which existed 'for no other denomination,' as a reason for passing Mr. Broadhurst's Bill. Probably not half-a-dozen of his hearers thought of doubting such a statement of law from such an authority; and if it was true it no doubt was a considerable argument for the Bill. But having often had to search for that needle in the bottle of hay of the complicated muddle of Church Building Acts, I have never been able to find anything approaching to it. Not only that, but a church or chapel seems to be the only public building connected with religion or education, including residences, for which tenants for life, popularly called tenants in tail, cannot give a yard of their own land, unless the next heir is an infant; and then by an Act of 1852 they may give one acre. And they have exactly the same power to give it for Dissenting chapels. . . . If he does want a real religious grievance to mend, let him remove that absurd restriction on giving sites for any places of religious worship. Taking them by force is a very different thing. And another is practically much worse, by which a bad clergyman can devastate his parish as to church-going. It is hardly credible in these days that an incumbent who is not quite bad enough to deprive can defy his Bishop and his whole parish and prohibit, through the Ecclesiastical Court, which cannot help granting the prohibition, any other clergyman (but not a layman) from officiating in the parish, not only in the church, but anywhere, even in the barn which Mr. Broadhurst talked of. That is called 'maintaining the parochial system,' which High Churchmen have invariably defended whenever attempts have been made by Lord Shaftesbury or anybody else to break it down. The Pluralities Bill now pending is a good opportunity for doing so, of course with proper securities, which a Bishop's licence would afford."

THE COURT.

Sunday was the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday. Divine service was conducted at Balmoral Castle by the Rev. Archibald Campbell, minister of Craithie, in the presence of the Queen, Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, Princess Beatrice, and the Princess of Leiningen, and the Royal household. The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out in the afternoon.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught left Bombay on Tuesday. His Royal Highness returns home on two months' leave to see the Queen, and in order to be present at the marriage of his sister, Princess Beatrice.

On Sunday morning the Prince and Princess of Wales, with Princess Albert Victor and George, the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, accompanied by the guests staying at Sandringham, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the household, were present at Divine service at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, in the park at Sandringham. The Rev. F. Hervey, M.A., Chaplain to the Queen, Domestic Chaplain to the Prince of Wales and rector of Sandringham, officiated and preached.

On Sunday the sixty-sixth anniversary of the birthday of Her Majesty was observed at Windsor by the ringing of the Castle and St. John's Church bells, and the Royal standard floated over the Townhall. In most of the churches of the Royal borough the National Anthem was played by the organists. Royal salutes were fired on Monday in the Long Walk and at Fort Belvedere, Virginia, in honour of

the event. The bells of the West-end churches were rung in the early morning. The band of the Grenadier Guards, which did duty with the 2nd Battalion of the regiment, which mounted the Queen's Guard in London for the day, played a selection of music in the courtyard of St. James's Palace during the ceremony of mounting and changing the guard. Flags were hoisted in many places in honour of the event. The Ministerial dinners in celebration of the occasion will take place on Saturday next.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mrs. Nottage, the late Lady Mayoress, has received a letter from Mr. Gladstone informing her that, in acknowledgment of the position and services of her respected husband as Lord Mayor of London, the Queen has been pleased to sanction her assuming, should it be agreeable to her, the title belonging to the wife of a knight.

A number of gentlemen connected with the City of London assembled in the Egyptian Hall at the Mansion House on Thursday afternoon to present a testimonial to the Lord Mayor expressive of their appreciation of the admirable manner in which he had performed the functions attaching to the office of chief magistrate of the City of London during the past year. The testimonial took the form of a silver centre-piece, a portrait of the Lord Mayor, which Mr. Frank Holl, R.A., has been commissioned to paint, an album containing the names of subscribers, and a valuable diamond necklace and pendant for the Lady Mayoress (Miss Fowler). The presentation was made by Sir George Chambers, and the Lord Mayor having replied warmly thanking the subscribers for the testimonial, the proceedings terminated.

The *Weekly Register* announces that Lord William Nevill, fourth son of the Marquis of Abergavenny, and formerly aide-de-camp to the Duke of Marlborough when Viceroy of Ireland, has been received into the Roman Catholic Church.

The number of visitors to the International Inventions Exhibition last week was 87,460, the total since the opening being 280,009.

An influential gathering took place on Tuesday afternoon in the Hall of Pembroke College, Cambridge, on the unveiling of a statue of the poet Gray, sculptured by Mr. Thornycroft. The Master of the college presided, and there were present Sir F. Leighton, Lord Houghton, Mr. Russell Lowell, Mr. Alma Tadema, and the principal members of the University. Gray was appointed professor of modern history in this University in 1768. Speeches were delivered by Lord Houghton, Sir F. Leighton, and Mr. Russell Lowell. The latter spoke in the highest terms of Gray, than whose productions, he said, he wanted nothing better. He added that as this was the last occasion upon which he might have an opportunity of addressing an English audience, he desired to express his sincere gratitude for the kindness that had been shown him in this country. He came as a far-off cousin, but he felt on leaving that he was something like a brother.

The scheme for forming an open space in front of Guildhall so as to show the whole façade and improve the general appearance of this locality, seems likely to assume larger proportions than was originally anticipated. The clearing away of the now disused old law courts and the removal of the cramped and ugly police-court opposite, would alone go far towards giving to this ancient and interesting building something of that free and noble air which characterises most of the old Flemish and Dutch townhalls. The Corporation have now determined to acquire the contiguous old Bankruptcy Court, which, though now long disused, still clothes the name of "Basinghall-street" with associations of commercial disaster. It has just been determined to adopt a report of the Chairman of the City Lands Committee recommending that this large building, with the ground, shall be purchased at a cost of £93,500, the value determined upon between the City Architect and Sir Henry Hunt on behalf of the Government.

The death is announced of Sir William Alexander George Young, British Governor of the Gold Coast at Accra, on the 25th ult., of fever. He had served for some time in the Royal Navy, which he entered in 1841, and was engaged as secretary to various flag officers. From December, 1856, to June, 1862, he acted as secretary to the Commission for determining the water boundary between Vancouver's Island and Oregon under the Treaty of June, 1846. He was placed on the retired list of paymasters at the end of 1853. After various appointments he succeeded, a few months since, Sir Samuel Rowe as Governor of the Gold Coast, when he received the honour of knighthood.

On Wednesday next, at four o'clock, will be held in the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster Abbey (by kind permission of the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster), the third annual meeting of the National Society for Preserving the Memorials of the Dead in the Churches, Churchyards, and Closed Burial-grounds of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The chair will be taken by the president, the Right Rev. the Bishop-Suffragan of Nottingham. Resolutions will be moved by the following members:—General the Lord Mark Kerr, K.C.B., H. E. H. Jerningham, Esq., M.P., Lieutenant-Colonel Bignold, J.P., Granville G. W. Leveson-Gower, Esq., F.S.A., George W. Marshall, Esq., F.S.A., and the Rev. F. G. Lee, D.D., F.S.A.

Messrs. Cassell and Company have given permission to Mr. Isaac Pitman, of Bath, to reprint Mr. Charles Pebody's book on *English Journalism, and the Men who have made it*, in phonography.

A great gathering of Sunday-school scholars took place on Tuesday at Halifax, in the Market Hall, being the first commemoration of the Halifax Sunday-School Centenary which was held in 1880. The great quadrangle of the Market Hall was occupied by 29,000 teachers and scholars. An orchestra of 600 instrumentalists had been erected on the east side, whilst nearly 10,000 spectators were accommodated in the galleries and on temporary platforms. Each of the 96 Sunday-schools present had a beautiful banner, and some of these were rich and costly. The programme of music included six hymn tunes and three choruses, which the children have been practising for some months. The choruses were Beethoven's "Hallelujah," Haydn's "The Heavens

are Telling," and Handel's "Hallelujah," which were fairly well sung. Thousands of people crowded the streets to watch the processions of children to and from the hall, and the arrangements for the commemoration were carried out with complete success, the proceedings being favoured with fine weather. The musical conductor was Mr. Abel Dean, who has officiated at these festivals since 1852.

A Parliamentary paper has been issued containing a return sent by the British Suez Canal directors to Lord Granville, showing the progress of the navigation through the Canal for the years 1882, 1883, and 1884. It states that, although the number of vessels passing through the Canal in 1884 was actually less by 23 than in 1883—3,284 vessels as against 3,307—yet the net tonnage for 1884—5,871,500 tons as against 5,775,681 tons—was greater by 95,639 tons, showing an increase in the size of the vessels using the Canal. This increase of tonnage, however, was not sufficient to prevent a diminution in the transit receipts caused by a reduction of 50c. in the navigation dues from January 1, 1884, and by the abolition of the pilotage tax on the 1st of July that year. The transit receipts for 1884 were 62,373,155. 54c. as against 65,847,812. 16c. for 1883. As to the comparative amounts of shipping of the various nationalities for the three years, the percentages of net tonnage for the year 1884 do not vary much from those of the previous year; the tonnage of Great Britain forming 76 per cent., and that of France 9.6 per cent. of the total tonnage engaged. In 1884 the number of British vessels was 2,474, of 6,312,533 gross tons, compared with 300 French of 829,398 tons, 145 Dutch of 359,756 tons, and 130 German of 238,293 tons.

Captain Lord, of the steamer *Critic*, which left Dundee for New York on the 26th of April with goods and passengers, reports that he arrived at that port on the 12th inst., after a most perilous passage, during which the vessel was imbedded for three days in an ice-floe, and narrowly escaped destruction. Captain Lord reports that for ten days after he left the Tay they had fine weather, but on the morning of the 5th of May the temperature suddenly fell and kept going down till midnight, when a thick fog enveloped the ship. When daylight broke the sight that met the view was appalling. A vast wall of ice completely surrounded the ship, and many of the passengers were panic-stricken, especially the women and children. This occurred in lat. 48deg. N., and long. 47 deg. 10min. W., right in the highway between Europe and America. The *Critic* struck the ice about six o'clock on the morning of May 6, and the ice seemed to extend in a west-north-west and south-south-east direction. All day long the *Critic* tried to find a passage to the southward, but without avail. The icebergs were exceedingly numerous and of monstrous size. Many of them were 800ft. high and assumed the dimensions of large islands. The fog became thicker and thicker (continued the captain) and it was with difficulty a way could be threaded through the bergs. Notwithstanding all the precautions taken, the ship became fast in the field of packed ice. They remained in this position all night on the 6th, and on the 7th the morning opened clear, but still no way out of the floe could be found. Another long and fearful night followed, and it was only at four o'clock on the afternoon of the 8th, when those on board the *Critic* had almost given up hope of ever getting out again, that the field suddenly opened and the steamer got into clear water. Captain Lord says:—"Such a shout of thanksgiving as went up then you never heard. We had been on the alert for sixty hours, and we were nearly dead with fatigue. This wonderful ice floe in such a latitude seems almost incredible. I never saw anything like it before, and I believe it is unprecedented in maritime history." The *Critic* left the ice when in latitude 44deg. N. longitude 49deg. 20min. W.

Preparations on an extensive scale have been made by the Government for the new system of 6d. telegrams. The extensions have been made on the basis of an estimate that the reduction in tariff will cause an increase of the business of the Department to the extent of 30 per cent. within the first year, and the extra expenditure already incurred amounts to £500,000. Of this amount £475,000 has been spent in new plant—poles, wires, instruments, &c., whilst £25,000 has been laid out in the erection of new buildings. This small proportion for the latter purpose is due to the fact that accommodation for future development had already been provided in most of the post-offices built or extended in the last two or three years, including those at London, Manchester, Bradford, York, Exeter, and Plymouth, Glasgow and Aberdeen, Cardiff, Dublin, Belfast, and Cork. The length of public road upon which new poles have been erected in England is 850 miles, apart from the extension on railway routes, and upon these poles there have been placed no less than 9,200 miles of new wires, in addition to which there are about 11,600 miles of new wires put up on existing road or railway poles. Three new trunk lines have been formed; the first from London, *via* Peterborough, Doncaster, York, and Pierce Bridge (Darlington), to Newcastle; the second from London, *via* Aylesbury, to near Leamington, then north of Birmingham to the west of Chester, half-way between Liverpool and Manchester, through Wigan, and then by way of Lancaster to Carlisle; the third over the South-Western line to Basingstoke, through Andover and Salisbury to Exeter—each with branches at various points from the main circuits. Similar extensions on a somewhat smaller scale have been made in Scotland and Ireland. A number of new three-wire submarine cables, for service under channels, rivers, and lakes, have also been provided for the convenience of the Isle of Man, the Orkney and Shetland Islands. In London the number of offices at which the pressure of business is met by the use of pneumatic tubes will be increased by the use of an additional length of 7,500 yards of tube. Among the additional instruments purchased are 40 Wheatstone automatic, 8 quadruplex, 300 duplex sounders, 350 single sounders, 150 single-needle machines, and 10 extra repeaters. The duplex system will be completed in the case of 100 circuits. The staff throughout the kingdom will be increased to the extent of 1,500 new telegraphists and over 1,000 messengers.

A Parliamentary paper has been issued containing a statement as to the amount expended by the 647 unions and parishes under separate Boards of Guardians in England and Wales during the half-year ended March 25, 1884. The amount expended during that time on indoor relief was £935,343, a larger sum by nearly £15,000 than in the same

period of 1883, when the sum was £920,636. For outdoor relief the expenditure for the two half-years was for 1883, £1,277,546; for 1884, £1,249,442. The total expenditure, £2,184,785, therefore, was less by £19,505 in 1884. The indoor maintenance is made up of two sums—£898,049 for workhouses, and £37,295 for other institutions. The outdoor relief is classed under four heads—in money (other than school fees), £1,097,047; further relief for school fees, £16,982; in kind, £121,590; and for children boarded out, £13,823. This total sum of £2,184,785 is classed in the return as spent by 11 divisions of which the metropolis spends by far the largest part. Less outdoor relief is given in this division in proportion to indoor maintenance; the latter takes £333,325, and the former, £87,658. These figures may be respectively compared with £405,600 and £90,860 expended in the same period of 1883. This is an increase of £24,533, or 6.2 per cent., whereas the total figures showed a decrease of nearly 1 per cent. of the metropolitan districts. Holborn with a population of 151,835 expends £31,847 under the two heads. This is closely followed by St. Pancras (population 238,258), with £31,298, and the remaining districts follow at intervals till we come to the lowest expenditure, St. John's, Hampstead, where 45,452 inhabitants expend £2,712 on poor relief. Some of the comparisons that can be made between population and expenditure are very instructive. Thus, while Westminster has a population of 46,549, barely 1,000 more than Hampstead, its expenditure is more than twice as large, £5,967. Still more marked is the contrast with the district of St. Giles and St. George, Bloomsbury, with 45,382 inhabitants, and an expenditure of £7,157. St. Marylebone, 154,910 inhabitants, expenditure £23,928; Strand, 33,582 inhabitants, expenditure £6,604; Holborn, 151,835 inhabitants, expenditure £31,847; the City, 51,439 inhabitants, expenditure £18,933; and St. George-in-the-East, 47,157 inhabitants, expenditure £10,019, are evidently the parishes where the proportion of the poor is highest, and therefore the expenditure is greatest a head. The above figures do not include the expenditure on insane paupers. It may be mentioned that one cause of the decrease in total expenditure was that the average price of wheat was 42s. 6d. the imperial quarter in 1883, and that the price fell to 36s. 8d. in 1884.

A Parliamentary return, issued on Saturday, gives particulars of the sums received by the several classes of local authorities in England and Wales, inclusive of the metropolis, of the amount of loans outstanding in the case of each class of authority at the termination of each of seven years, and of the population of England and Wales, and the poor-rate valuation in each year. The total net receipts of the local authorities, inclusive of the metropolis, from public rates, rose from £20,147,849 (metropolis £4,700,252) in 1876-77 to £24,477,036 (metropolis £5,982,736) in 1882-83; while the receipts from other sources, including tolls, duties, fees, rents, Treasury subventions, and loans, amounted to £46,722,689 (metropolis £9,078,025) in the former year, and to £53,412,055 (metropolis £11,209,582) in the latter year; but the largest yearly receipts were in 1881-82, when the total net receipts from all sources were £57,360,617 (metropolis £12,255,391). The outstanding loans of the local authorities in 1876-77 were £106,045,465 (metropolis £23,253,748), and gradually rose to £159,142,926 (metropolis £33,416,598), in 1882-83. The population in 1876-77 was 24,460,000, with a gross estimated rental of £146,989,979, and a rateable value of £124,587,474; while in 1882-83 the population was 26,408,820, gross estimated rental £167,449,369, and rateable value £141,407,686. Of these, the figures pertaining to the metropolis only were, in 1876-77—population, 3,489,428; gross estimated rental, £27,602,649; rateable value, £22,763,087. In 1882-83 the figures were—population, 3,893,272; gross estimated rental, £33,885,917; rateable value, £27,973,978.

Bank Holiday this year has been one of the worst of the many bad ones there have been since Sir John Lubbock succeeded in passing his Bill. Whit Sunday itself, though somewhat cool, was bright and sunny; but Monday was cold, damp, and gloomy. During the afternoon there was a persistent drizzle, which every now and then increased into a considerable shower. The effect of all this upon the pleasure traffic may be readily conceived. The Great Eastern Railway, which usually takes vast crowds out to the forests of Epping and Ongar, carried only 76,500 passengers, against 115,000 last year. At Kew the visitors fell off from 61,400 in 1883 and 80,000 last year to 33,000. At the Zoological Gardens they dropped from 29,988 to 19,642. On the other hand, 56,488 persons went to the Crystal Palace, 31,445 to the Alexandra Palace, 8,986 to the British Museum (against 3,270 last year), 16,200 to the National Gallery (against 9,900), and 15,506 to the South Kensington Museum. At the Inventions Exhibition there were 73,684 visitors, against 42,000 at the Fisheries and 54,672 at the Health Exhibition. The highest previous number was 71,000 at the August Bank holiday last year.

A daring robbery of diamonds was committed at No. 16, Hatton-garden, on Friday week. It appears that the habit of one Mr. Alexander is, on ordinary occasions, after having transacted the business of the day, to leave the offices, which are upon the ground floor, to be securely fastened up by a clerk. On Friday week, having much correspondence to get through, he stayed later than usual, and soon after six o'clock he sent his clerk away, saying that he would lock up himself. A few minutes afterwards the door was opened, a respectably dressed man entered, and before Mr. Alexander had time to speak to him, snatched up a pocket-book from the side of the table. It contained a quantity of diamonds and precious stones, valued at £1,500, and some bank-notes. He then threw a quantity of snuff into Mr. Alexander's face, thus depriving him of his sight for a few moments. On Mr. Alexander regaining his sight he seized the thief. But a revolver which the thief had went off, and its contents went through Mr. Alexander's right hand. The thief then ran out of the house and down Hatton-garden, got into a hansom cab, and drove quickly away, and is still at large. The injuries that Mr. Alexander has received are not of a serious character.

The athletic sports of the Oxford Military College took place at Cowley on the 22nd and 23rd inst., and were attended by the parents and friends of the students—over one hundred—who took part in them.

On the latter day there was a large gathering from distant and different parts of England; the Board of Management being represented by the Ven. Archdeacon Palmer, Brigade Surgeon Ward, and its vice-chairman, Lieutenant-General Lowry, C.B. The excellent arrangements of the Rev. the Head Master, Mr. Eustace, for the sports of the students and for the comfort of the visitors were well supported, and carried out with spirit and success by Mr. Nelson; by Mr. Moffat, the Head of the Junior Department; by Colonel Macartney, the Director of the military training of the College; and by Mr. Naidley, its secretary. Old students from Sandhurst and elsewhere were present, and the very varied sports, including "obstacle" and "consolation" races for seniors and juniors, a donkey race, and "the tug of war"—were keenly contested and thoroughly enjoyed. The College Riding School arrangements and Gymnasium were inspected, and the large swimming-bath much admired by the visitors. The occasion—one of great interest to all connected with this useful institution—was brought to a fitting close (after brief but stirring words from the Head Master and vice-chairman), by the presentation by General Lowry of the prizes awarded. These prizes, which were at once both handsome and useful, were the generous gifts of the wives of the staff; of Lord Waveney, a member of Council; of the Head Master, and the medical and other officers of the Oxford Military College.

A general meeting of Old Harrovians and Harrow Masters, convened by Sir Matthew Ridley, Bart., M.P., will be held at the Westminster Palace Hotel, on Tuesday, June 9, at three o'clock, for the purpose of taking the necessary steps to raise a fund to commemorate, at Harrow, the Headmastership of Dr. Butler.

Mr. James Ashbury, late member for Brighton, has become a large landed proprietor in New Zealand, and intends to become a grazier on a large scale. He has bought some 26,000 or 27,000 acres of land, upon which no corn will be grown save for station purposes, and which will be stocked to its fullest capacity with oxen and sheep. His new amusement will cost Mr. Ashbury, to begin with, something like £200,000. He has paid £150,000 for the estate, which is near Otanau.

The Prince of Wales has, at the request of the Trustees of the British Museum, consented to act as their representative, and to receive, in trust for the nation, the marble statue of Charles Darwin, executed by Mr. Boehm, R.A., which has recently been placed *in situ* on the landing of the principal staircase leading from the great hall of the Natural History Museum, Cromwell-road. The statue will be unveiled on Tuesday, the 9th of June, at twelve o'clock, and formally transferred to the custody of the Trustees of the British Museum, by Professor Huxley, President of the Royal Society and Chairman of the Darwin Memorial Committee.

Travellers arriving from the Continent should be aware of the nature of the examination to which luggage is now subjected. A correspondent of the *St. James's Gazette* writes:—"A few days ago, travelling with two ladies from Berlin, I unsuspectingly registered our heavy trunks through to London. We slept one night at Cologne, and consequently the luggage preceded us by a few hours. On arriving at Charing-cross I offered the keys, as usual, to the Custom House officer; but found, to my surprise and indignation, that this was now a needless formality; as the locks of our portmanteaus had already been picked, and a private and secret examination of our effects had already been completed before our arrival. The officer was so good as to inform me that his orders were to smash any locks that he was unable to pick. Such an examination of trunks without the knowledge or consent of the owners seems to me 'flat burglary'; a proceeding as unjustifiable as that opening and resealing of private letters which many years ago produced such a storm of indignation during the postmaster's office of Sir James Graham. At all events, travellers should have notice of what they are to expect, and should avoid consigning to their trunks such articles as undeveloped photographic negatives or small articles of jewellery which might easily disappear in the confusion of a nocturnal examination. Above all, valuable unpickable locks should be eschewed, as they are doomed to certain destruction, without any hope of pecuniary compensation. Meanwhile cakes of dynamite are smuggled without detection in rolls of bacon or in casks of American apples.

The deaths registered last week in 28 great towns of England and Wales corresponded to an annual rate of 21.1 per 1,000 of their aggregate population, which is estimated at 8,906,446 persons in the middle of this year. In London, 2,391 births and 1,554 deaths were registered. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 195, and the deaths 17 below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The annual death rate per 1,000 from all causes, which had been 18.7 and 19.1 in the two preceding weeks, further rose last week to 19.9. During the first seven weeks of the current quarter the death-rate averaged 20.8 per 1,000, against 22.1 in the corresponding period of the nine years 1876-84. The 1,554 deaths included 28 from small-pox, 93 from measles, 12 from scarlet fever, 10 from diphtheria, 68 from whooping-cough, 2 from typhus, 13 from enteric fever, 3 from ill-defined forms of continued fever, 16 from diarrhoea and dysentery, and not one from cholera; thus 245 deaths were referred to these diseases, being 6 above the corrected average weekly number. The fatal cases of small-pox registered in London, which had been 32, 44, and 45 in the three preceding weeks, declined last week to 23, and were three below the corrected weekly average. These 23 deaths were exclusive of 22 deaths of London residents who died in the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals situated outside Registration London. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 287 and 291 in the two preceding weeks, further rose to 305 last week, and were five below the corrected weekly average. Different forms of violence caused thirty-nine deaths; thirty-six were the result of negligence or accident, among which were eighteen from fractures and contusions, five from burns and scalds, four from drowning, and five of infants under 1 year of age from suffocation. In Greater London 3,027 births and 1,945 deaths were registered, corresponding to annual rates of 30.4 and 19.5 per 1,000 of the population. In the outer ring thirty-eight deaths from small-pox, twenty-one from measles, twelve from whooping-cough, and six from

diphtheria were registered. The thirty-eight fatal cases of small-pox included twenty-nine in West Ham, five in Barking-town, and two in Croydon sub-districts; nine deaths from measles occurred in Croydon, and three from diphtheria in Tottenham.

We regret to record the death of Mrs. Harriet Eleanor Chichester, wife of the Rev. George V. Chichester, rector of Wotton, which occurred at Wotton Rectory, near Dorking, Surrey, on Tuesday evening last. Mrs. Chichester was mother to Mrs. Evelyn, of Wotton House, Surrey, and daughter to the late Mr. Hugh Lyle, of Knockarna, county Antrim.

A large number of persons connected with the Baptist body met at breakfast at the Cannon-street Hotel on Thursday; the object of the meeting being to recognise the help which the Baptist Mission on the Congo has received from Mr. Henry Stanley during his operations on the Congo. Mr. Joseph Tritton occupied the chair. An address to Mr. Stanley having been read and presented, Mr. Stanley addressed the meeting. He confessed to having in early life ill-understood missionaries. His ideas on the subject till he saw Livingstone were of a legendary character. But then he had recognised what a type of noble, physical, and spiritual manhood a good missionary and a good man could be. Ever since he had, thinking of Livingstone's friendly manner, and the intense earnestness of his language, entertained a high opinion of missionaries. His crude idea of a missionary was that of a man who with only a Bible in his hand was able, by the magic of his eloquence, to convert at once tens and hundreds of thousands of pagans; and he had gone on expecting to see such a wonder; but he never had seen it; and therefore he had begun to believe that missionaries were either lazy, indifferent, or incapable. But when he saw how Livingstone went to work, he knew how a missionary ought to do his business, and what an egregious mistake he had committed. He had seen the young missionaries on the Congo—Mr. Comer and his friends; and if he or they had manifested any capacity for converting the natives by tens of thousands at once, he should have felt it his duty to bribe them from the service of the society to join his own staff, because, with such capacity of conversion, it would be a matter of easy calculation to know the hour when the whole of Africa might be converted to the faith, and be taught how to behave themselves. Mr. Stanley spoke at length of the difficulties with which the missionaries had to contend in regard to the languages of the natives and the climate of Africa, and dwelt upon the necessity of the practical education of missionaries for the life which they would have to lead among the savages whom they were to convert. Having referred to the danger the young missionary ran from ignorance of the climate and consequent imprudence, Mr. Stanley went on to contrast with this state of things the spectacle of Livingstone living to his sixty-first year in the interior of Africa without medicines or stores, living on corn-cobs and bananas, and up to the last talking with enthusiasm of the beauties of Africa. In reality, with prudence and the exercise of common sense, the climate of Africa was not half as dangerous as many parts of the Southern United States. If women and children could live there, as they did, with care, what was to prevent the same thing in Africa? All that he had done for the Baptist missionaries had been done with goodwill on his part; but, to be honest with them, it was not out of his spontaneous goodwill alone, for it was equally in obedience to a command of his Majesty the King of the Belgians. Should he find himself again in a position to do any further service either to the Baptist or to any other missionary society, he should do it with a free heart and with perfect impartiality to all those labourers whose toil he had seen to be more severe than any of his own in the heart of Africa.

Rarely, if ever, has it fallen to the lot of any particular brand of champagne to make such remarkable progress in public favour as has been the case with that introduced by Hedges and Butler, of 155, Regent-street. Universally pronounced by connoisseurs to be the very perfection of wine, the new brand—Melotte et Fils, of Reims—has been heartily welcomed, and is now very largely consumed at the Mansion House and City banquets, public dinners, regimental messes, West-end clubs, &c. The wine is of one vintage only—that of 1880, which was the finest for many years; and for its introduction the old-established and eminent firm of Hedges and Butler deserves and will receive the thanks of the public, amongst whom there has been lately a decidedly growing taste for this kind of wine. As an evidence of the enormous business done by this firm, we may state that their vaults and corridors occupy nearly an acre of subterranean space, and extend to Savile-row on the one side and Burlington-street on the other, one tunnel alone being 200ft. long. And it is not in London only that this ancient firm does its share in the dispensing of good wines. In Spain, the home of sherrys—at Jerez de la Frontera—are the shipping cellars whence wine is despatched to all parts of the globe. Fine Solera butts of Amoroso, Glorioso, Amontillado, Montilla, Manzanilla, and other choice sherrys are there stacked, three and four tiers high, remaining untouched until the wines have developed. From Cadiz, the shipping port, butts of golden sherrys are shipped in enormous quantities, and at Brighton, where the firm has been established for thirty years, their large cellars extend beneath the King's-road to the beach under arched vaults upwards of 60ft. high and in three tiers of cellars. To this vast cellage lately the firm have been obliged to add one for champagne, which is capable of holding 30,000 bottles.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending May 23 was—medical 658, surgical 269; total 927, of which 315 were new cases.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities. In the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council it has been distinctly stated that the old sponge filters are of no avail for purifying water. These filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest ANIMAL CHARCOAL, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited), 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water: its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d

LATEST NEWS.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 29.

Sir Peter Lumsden is expected here to-morrow from Batoum, and will leave the same day for London, should he arrive in time for the Varna boat. Karatheodori Pasha left yesterday for Samos to take up his new post.

BERLIN, May 29.

The Emperor's condition has improved after a good night's rest. His Majesty and the Grand Duchess of Baden to-day witnessed from the windows of the Palace a brilliant procession of the Turners' Guild, organised as an expression of loyalty towards the Emperor. His Majesty repeatedly bowed his acknowledgments of the enthusiastic cheers of those who took part in the procession.

NEW YORK, May 29.

On Monday the steamship *City of Rome* ran down the French barque *Georges et Jeanne*. The steamer scarcely felt the shock, but the barque went down at once with twenty-two of her crew. Two men were saved by the boats which were lowered from the steamer. On the same forenoon, in latitude forty-four degrees north, longitude forty-nine degrees west, the *City of Rome* sighted fifty-eight icebergs.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 29.

The *Russkij Invalid* publishes a Ministerial order, which will come in force from September 13 next, stating that officers will from that date be required to go through a course of study in Oriental languages.

The Russian *St. Petersburg Gazette* announces that a fourth ironclad for the Black Sea will be built at Nicolaieff, and that it has been decided to order from Sheffield the armour plates for the three Black Sea ironclads already in course of construction.

A Ministerial decree has been issued ordering the Cronstadt military district to be placed under stricter supervision up to September 16th next.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphs that the following is the exact state of the frontier negotiations at the present moment:—

"Roughly speaking, England, on the part of the Ameer, gives up Penjdeh for Zulfikar. In regard to the latter point, the question is whether the pass shall form the boundary or remain wholly Afghan. In respect to Penjdeh, Russia insists that Meruchak belongs to the oasis, and must therefore be included in the transfer. The English Government, on the other hand, claims Meruchak for the Ameer, and makes its retention a *sine qua non*. It is this difference of opinion that chiefly delays the conclusion of an agreement, and it is on this point mainly that the present exchange of views between the two Cabinets turns. The latest English proposals are now before the Russian Government; and it may fairly be expected that some light will be thrown upon the matter in the course of a few days. The exact limits of Ankhui, Tuannin, and other districts mentioned in the agreement of 1873 are also the subject of inquiry at present; but the decision of this portion of the question will probably be referred to the Commissioners on the spot. As to the supposed distaste of the Russian Government to allow matters to be settled by a definite treaty, it is hardly credible that such should be the case, for the original propositions in that sense undoubtedly came from St. Petersburg. On this point, as on many others, England has first declined or shelved the Russian proposals, and afterwards advanced them as her own. Russia, it is true, being in possession, has no pressing reason for wishing the frontier to be settled by treaty; but the opportunity is a good one."

The funeral of Victor Hugo is now definitely fixed for Monday next, at half-past ten o'clock. Sunday will be devoted to the lying-in-state in the Arc de Triomphe and the filing past of the deputations and the populace of Paris. The procession will descend from the Arc de Triomphe through the Champs Elysees, and on reaching the Place de la Concorde turn across the river bridge, and then follow the Boulevard St. Germain, the Boulevard St. Michel, and the Rue Soufflot, to the Pantheon. In the *Journal Officiel* appears the complete order of procession. At the Arc de Triomphe, before the procession starts, speeches will be made by the Ministry of Public Instruction, by the Presidents of the Senate, of the Chamber, and of the Municipal Council, and by M. Emile Augier for the Academy. At the Pantheon, M. Madier de Montjau will be the spokesman of the *proseris* of the Coup d'Etat; the Mayor of Besancon will express the sympathies of Victor Hugo's native town; M. Claretie will speak on behalf of the Societe des Gens de Lettres, and M. Got for the Comedie Francaise. The last mass was on Thursday, celebrated in the church of St. Genevieve, which is to be deprived of its religious character for the funeral. The Host was removed by a priest wearing the ribbon of the Legion of Honour. None of the consecrated vessels and furniture of the church will, however, be taken away before the funeral. The Cardinal-Archbishop of Paris declares the decree for the transformation of the church into the Pantheon illegal; but he advised the Abbe de Bonnefoy, the clergyman in charge, to offer no resistance to its enforcement. Meanwhile it is reported that Mgr. Guibert intends writing to M. Jules Grévy on the subject.

Lord Derby, on the 25th inst., cabled to the Governors of the Australian colonies that the following boundary-line had been agreed upon by the Governments of Great Britain and Germany in respect to the interior of New Guinea:—Starting on the coast near Mitre Rock on the 8th parallel, following this parallel to 147 deg. E. long.; thence by a straight line N.W. to where the 6th parallel cuts 141 deg.; thence W.N.W. to where the 5th parallel cuts 141 deg. The territory unclaimed by the Dutch is thus divided nearly equally between Great Britain and Germany.

The Pope has (the Bombay correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphs) granted a further prolongation of four months to the ordinary and extraordinary jurisdictions of the Archbishop of Goa as Primate of the East. By the Papal Brief of last year the jurisdiction of the Archbishop in about half the Vicariates Apostolic of India was to be transferred on the 1st of June to a special delegate who has been in Bombay for the past six months. This is the second postponement which has occurred, and it is believed to be due to the agitation among the Goanese communities throughout India, which continues unabated, and even threatens the Roman Catholic Church with schism.

SOCIETY.

A marriage is arranged between Mr. John D. Balfour, of Pansalatenne Estate, Ceylon, second son of Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Balfour, of Berstane, Kirkwall, N.B., and Miss Sophy Orred, youngest daughter of the late Mr. John Orred, of Ashwicke, Gloucestershire.

Also between Mr. Richard Thorold, late 10th Hussars, third son of the late Mr. Henry Thorold, of Cuxwold, Lincolnshire, and Alice Hamilton, widow of the late Mr. Edward Potter, of Fullwood, Gloucestershire, and 37, Queen's-gate-gardens.

Also between Mr. William Sampson Trotter, of Horton Manor, Epsom, and Miss Mabel Graves, youngest daughter of the late Hon. Henry Graves.

On Thursday last, the 28th inst., in the church of The Oratory, Brompton, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Ward, of Northwood Park, Isle of Wight, with Miss Gertrude Dormer, eldest daughter of the Hon. Hubert Francis Dormer. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. Wilfred Ward, his brother, as best man; and there were six bridesmaids, the Misses Isabel, Lily, and May Dormer (sisters of the bride), Hon. Louisa Dormer and Miss Mary Dormer (cousins of the bride), and Miss Margaret Ward, sister of the bridegroom. They wore pretty dresses, composed of white crepe and lace, and tulle veils. Each wore a brooch—a diamond arrow through a horseshoe in pearls, with initials of the bride and bridegroom in diamonds—and carried bouquets of lilies of the valley. The bride arrived shortly before eleven o'clock. She wore a lovely dress of white satin, covered with Brussels lace; sprays of natural orange blossoms, lilies in her hair, attached with a wheatheaf in diamonds (the gift of the bridegroom) covered by a Brussels lace veil and a bunch of orange blossoms fastened to her bodice by a diamond bee. Mrs. Dormer, mother of the bride, wore a dress of the new canvas material, grey bodice, and drapery over a striped petticoat. His Eminence Cardinal Manning performed the ceremony, and among the clergy assisting were the Right Rev. the Bishop of Portsmouth, Father Gordon, and several of the Fathers of the Oratory, Father M'Ouliffe, and the Rev. A. L. Delerue, of Warwick. After the registration of the marriage a nuptial mass followed, which was said by the Rev. Bernard Ward, brother of the bridegroom. The wedding party present on the occasion included the Countess Dormer, Lord and Lady Dormer, Lady Gwendoline Petre and the Misses Petre, Hon. James Dormer, Hon. H. F. Dormer, Sir Archibald and Lady Alison and Miss Alison, Mrs. James Ward, Captain Wingfield, Mrs. Murray (of Hayes Castle), Mrs. Washington Hibbert, Mrs. Towneley and Miss Towneley, Mrs. Higgins and Miss Higgins, Miss Evelyn Dormer, Mr. Thornhill, and many others. At the conclusion of the Mass the wedding party, on leaving the Oratory, drove to Hon. Hubert F. and Mrs. Dormer's residence in Onslow-place for breakfast. At half-past two the newly-married couple started for Yorkshire, where they remain for a few days and then go on a tour in Scotland, and on their return will make a tour of the English lakes. Mrs. Ward's travelling dress was composed of dust-coloured openwork canvas, trimmed with velvet of a deeper shade, and hat to match. The wedding presents were numerous, and there were a great many jewels, the bride receiving some fine diamonds from Mr. Ward. The tenants on Mr. Ward's estate presented the bride with a magnificent diamond ring, and Mr. Ward himself received from his tenants a handsome testimonial in silver.

The marriage of Edmond Kerrison, Esq., Captain R.A., with Jessie, second daughter of Rear-Admiral Stapleton Greville, took place at All Saints' Church, Laleham, on Wednesday, May 20. The bride, who was given away by her father, was dressed in white duchesse satin trimmed with deep flounces of Brussels lace; wreath of real orange blossom and tulle veil, her only ornament being a large diamond star, the gift of the bridegroom. She was attended by six bridesmaids, who wore costumes of pink coral ottoman silk, with lace skirts; lace bonnets with aigrettes to match the colour of their dresses; bouquets of azaleas, and each wore a diamond fly brooch, the gift of the bridegroom. Capt. Hussey, R.E., acted as best man. The bride's mother was dressed in ruby-coloured velvet, with bonnet and feathers to match. About fifty guests sat down to the wedding breakfast at Admiral Greville's, among them being the Duchess of Richmond and Gordon, the Ladies Caroline and Florence Gordon Lennox, Lady Louisa Egerton, Lord and Lady Cecilia Bingham, Lady Julia and Miss Bonwens, Mr. and Lady Eva Heathcote, Mr. and Mrs. Kerrison, Captain and Mrs. Roberts, Mr. Sherwin Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Bonwens, Mr. Maurice O'Connell, Mr. Martyn, Miss Greville, &c. The wedding presents, which were very handsome and numerous, consisted chiefly of plate and jewellery. After the wedding breakfast Captain and Mrs. Kerrison left for Folkestone, en route for the Continent.

On Tuesday, the 26th inst., at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, was celebrated the marriage of Capt. Henry Fortescue, 17th Lancers, son of Capt. Francis Fortescue, late captain in Scots Guards, with Miss Maud Elizabeth Holden, daughter of the late Mr. William Holden, of Palace House, Lancashire. The ceremony was performed by the vicar, Rev. Henry Montagu Villiers, M.A. The bridegroom's brother, Mr. Lionel Fortescue, acted as best man. The bride arrived at half-past eleven o'clock on the arm of her uncle, Col. Holden, who afterwards gave her away. She wore a rich dress of pearl-white satin, embroidered in pearls, and bodice and train of rich brocade; sprays of orange blossoms and tulle veil, fastened with diamond horseshoes, and also a necklet of diamonds. The bride's train was carried by a page dressed in white plush and satin, trimmed with yellow bows and lace. The six bridesmaids were prettily dressed in cream nun's veiling; plain bodices and full skirts, with an insertion of yak lace let in above the wide hem, and long wide sashes of yellow silk; cream high straw hats, trimmed with wings and yellow ribbon velvet. They carried posies of yellow tulips, tied with satin ribbon, and a small bunch of the same on their bodices, fastened with diamond horseshoe brooches, the bridegroom's gift. After leaving the church the friends and relatives of the bride and bridegroom met at 13, Wilton-street, Grosvenor-place, for breakfast. Later in the afternoon Captain and Mrs. Fortescue left for Oxford,

where they intend spending their honeymoon. The bride's travelling dress was dark brown beige, with trimmings of gold brocade, and hat to match.

Lady Colebrooke gave an extremely pretty ball at 2, Hamilton-place, on Thursday, the 21st inst. The rooms were decorated with an unusual profusion of beautiful roses, geraniums, and ferns. Some large bells, composed entirely of roses, hung from the ceiling, looked remarkably well in contrast with the brilliant white of the walls. The lighting was particularly good, and as there was space for dancing, and comfortable seats arranged for the chaperones, the ball was very enjoyable. Many young married ladies wore white dresses and diamond tiaras. The young ladies nearly all wore tulle or net dresses made with waterfall or ballet skirts, white, maize, and black being the prevailing colours.

Mrs. Dutton Cook gave an unusually successful morning concert on Wednesday, at 1, Belgrave-square, by permission of Mr. Sassoon. Mrs. Cook herself played Sterndale Bennett's "Maid of Orleans" sonata and other pieces with admirable delicacy and precision; Mdme. Valleria sang "Is it yes?" by Engel; and Mdme. Fassett and Miss Phillips were delightful in two little songs by Hollander; and another twain of ditties, "Take, oh take those lips away," and "When that I was a little tiny boy," by Miss Carmichael, were notable for their quaint grace and Shakespearean feeling. Mr. De Lara sang his own song "Mine to-day," and Tosti's setting of the serenade from "A quoi revient les Jennes Filles." Mr. Celli, Mdme. Marion, and Miss Elliot also sang, while Mrs. Bernard Beere recited Owen Meredith's "The Portrait," and Mr. Barrett gave Carleton's Farm Ballad, "Gone with a Handsome Man." Mr. Grossmith, welcome as ever, entertained the audience with two songs and a musical parody, and so completed a very pleasant programme. Mrs. Dutton Cook wore a pretty gown of soft white silk and lace, with a yellow rose at the throat; Mrs. Beere was in a trained dress of grass green stamped plush, with draped front of amber silk; Mdme. Fassett wore an Indian silk of a peculiar shade of fawn, with a gold bonnet.

The Marquis of Salisbury will be the guest of the Hon. and Very Rev. Purey Cust, D.D., Dean of York, on his visit to that city on July 15. His Lordship will deliver an address in the great hall of the Fine Art Exhibition building.

Owing to slight indisposition, the Marquis of Hartington was unable to proceed from Dublin to Belfast on Thursday to open the Ulster Reform Club. His Lordship is suffering from the effects of a cold caught during the passage to Dublin, and it is feared that he will be unable to leave the Viceregal Lodge for three or four days.

The Protestant Defence Association on Thursday held a private meeting in Dublin to protest against an innovation introduced on Wednesday, when the Dublin clergy were invited to hold Communion, and afterwards to breakfast in the Cathedral, as a preliminary to an address by the Bishop of Bedford. The Association, in a series of resolutions passed on Thursday, assert that this is part of a movement which has been working underground for some time; but is the first public invitation to a general acceptance of such innovations. They believe the Bishop of Bedford, who is the same Rev. Walsham How known as the president and patron of retreats in England, would not have placed his services at the disposal of the originators without wishing to aid some movement of importance, such as the early Communion, which is partaken of fasting, a main point with Ritualists, and being a sort of initiatory rite meant to confer merit and sanctity on certain acts and occasions—in short, very much the same as in a Romish Mass. The Association appeals to Irish Protestants to frustrate any insidious attempt to corrupt and Romanise the doctrines and practices of the Church of Ireland.

A meeting of the Board of Management of the Bishop of London's Fund was held on Thursday at the offices, 46A, Pall-mall—present, the Lord Bishop of London, and afterwards General Sir Richard Wilbraham, K.C.B., in the chair; the Archdeacon of Middlesex, Sir W. R. Farquhar, Bart., the Hon. D. F. Fortescue, R. Few, Esq., E. Thornton, Esq., J. H. Nelson, Esq., W. Rivington, Esq., Charles Wood, Esq., and the Revs. Brownlow Maitland, R. Wheeler Bush, J. G. Pilkington, H. W. Dearden, Canon Nisbet, L. Borrett White, W. Walsh, H. Leach, and G. P. Pownall. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the report of the Executive Committee for the year 1884 was presented. Mr. Thornton moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by the Rev. Brownlow Maitland, and carried unanimously. The Hon. Dudley Fortescue then moved a vote of thanks to the clergy who had assisted the Fund by means of collections and offertories during the past year, which was seconded by Sir Richard Wilbraham, and carried unanimously. A vote of thanks to the local associations, which had raised contributions in aid of the Fund, was then moved by Mr. Few, seconded by the Rev. J. G. Pilkington, and carried unanimously. A report of the Sub-Committee as to the division of the Fund for the ensuing year having been taken as read, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Thornton, seconded by Sir Richard Wilbraham, "That the same be received and adopted." The Board took into consideration the report of the Sub-Committee of Grants on some suggestions made at Sion College, and resolved that it is expedient to promote both local associations and local meetings, and also special ladies' associations on behalf of the Fund; that advances might be made in special cases, and under certain regulations, for the purpose of securing sites in London and the suburbs, and that the monthly notice of subscription in the *Times* should be accompanied by a short statement of the methods and objects of the Fund, and that a more general statement of the specific wants of the diocese should be inserted quarterly, giving, as suggested by the sub-committee, specific accounts of diocesan wants, and of the means available for meeting them. A discussion took place with reference to the erection of mission buildings on glebe lands, and the Board expressed its opinion against grants being made towards such buildings, as they could not be secured for public use by the declaration of trusts. A vote of thanks to the Lord Bishop of London for his kindness in presiding was moved by the Rev. S. Bardale, and carried unanimously.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

NEW ACROSTIC RULES.

In future, instead of the Quarterly Prize, a Prize of One Guinea will be given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics that appear in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competition so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties. No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic, addressed to the Acrostic Editor of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length. Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 3.

(THIRD MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

1. L aureat E
2. O ccidentia L
3. W assal L

Answers have been received from Waddles, Conjecture, S.O.F., Noremack, Etak, Land o' Nod, Ketha, G.C.H., Bertha, Iris, Whaup, Sleepy, Culverin, Chelmsford, Singa, Sperry, Paddy, Kildale, Qandary, Asphodel, Roslyn, The Owl, Zyz, Zulus, O.R., Godiva, Pen, Hampton Courtier, M.A.E.B., Bios, Hadji, Thal, Katydid, Cymro, Mac, Evelyn, Pegasus, Kiku, L.E.L., and Felix.

TRIES FOR MARCH.—Beam, Persovers, and Todcat have each sent incorrect solutions to the above Acrostic, and remain competing.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 5.

(THIRD MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

PROEM.

The Surrey downs and the renegade Earl
A contest disclose dear to Peor and churl.

1.
The Laureate's muse has enshrined her woes
In rhymeless verse most akin to prose.

2.
This he talked all a long life through—
And the fact quite late M. Jourdain knew.

3.
In the fresh spring of England's youth his song
Carolled its fairy strains that linger long.

4.
Word the poetaster is apt to use,
If the sun or the moon is invoked by his muse.

5.
By pious hearts to Mary consecrated,
By London to its season dedicated.

The annual meeting of the Scripture Readers Society for Ireland was held in the Egyptian Hall, Mansion House, and was presided over by the Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, who in the course of his opening remarks, alluded to the very encouraging fact that during the most disturbed times and in the most disturbed places the Scripture readers of the Society had gone about in perfect safety, the people receiving their efforts with respect and reverence. He felt convinced that with due support the Scripture Readers' Society for Ireland would reap a full and abundant harvest. The success the Society had attained in the past should be an encouragement to give it still further support. The speakers included the Rev. J. Ormston, the Rev. W. Frith, R. C. Morgan, Esq., Editor of the *Christian*; the Rev. Canon Sayers, Thomas Lefroy, Esq., Q.C., Colonel R. W. Brooke, and others, all of whom referred in eloquent terms to the great spiritual benefit derived by the Irish people from the labours amongst them of the agents of the Society, and urged most earnestly upon all in whose power it lay to help on the work, either by pecuniary gifts or personal assistance. The annual report, which was presented by the Secretary, Captain J. Kearney White, who labours most assiduously in the interest of the Society, showed that meetings had been held during the past year in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and that everywhere the good work carried on by the Society had been recognised and appreciated. The accounts of the Society showed a balance due to the Treasurer of £64 2s. 10d., notwithstanding the donations and subscriptions were £267 10s. in excess of the preceding year, the total expenditure for the year having been £3,366 17s. The Committee appeal very earnestly for funds to enable them to extend their sphere of usefulness.

On Wednesday, the 20th inst., the ceremony of unveiling a portrait medallion of the late Mr. Peter Squire, in the Pharmaceutical Society's house in Bloomsbury-square, was performed by Sir Spencer Wells, Bart., in the presence of a large gathering. Sir Spencer Wells, unveiling the medallion, spoke of the feeling which a very great many members of the medical profession had for Mr. Squire, and how much they felt the association of the work of the pharmaceutical chemist with their own. He mentioned how Mr. Squire's success as a practical pharmacist had gained for him the appointment, which he held for forty years, of chemist to the Queen; and stated that when anaesthesia was first attempted in this country, Mr. Squire constructed the apparatus by which the first operation was performed. He concluded by expressing his admiration for the ability and industry which Mr. Squire evinced throughout his long life.

Two ladies have, it is stated, contributed, through Miss Gordon, £2,000 towards the "Gordon Boys' Camp Fund" (20, Cockspur-street), the trustees of which are the Hon. Hallam Tennyson, General Higginson, and the Hon. Maude Stanley, on the following conditions:—1. That the sum be returned to Miss Gordon unless sufficient money is raised to found and maintain a really large camp. 2. That the camp be entirely undenominational—i.e., that it be not confined to the Church of England or to any one sect, either as regards admission or teaching. 3. That arrangements be made that the poorest and most neglected class of boys shall receive a share of the benefit.

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